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## UNDER DEED OF ASSIGNMENT

Dated May 27, 1904.

Re GODFREY THOMPSON MITCHELL, of Low Fell, Gateshead, in the County of Durham, Chemist.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,** that all Creditors of the above-named Godfrey Thompson Mitchell, who have not already sent in their Claims and assented to the Deed of Assignment, are required on or before the 21st day of December, 1904, to send in particulars of their Debts or Claims to the undersigned, the Trustee, and assent to the Deed, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of the dividend proposed to be declared.

Dated this 30th day of November, 1904.

LIONEL WILLIAMSON,  
c/o WILKINSON & SIMPSON (LIMITED),  
24 Newgate Street, Newcastle upon-Tyne.

## BENEVOLENT FUND OF THE

## Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Dependent upon Voluntary Support. Funds Urgently Required.  
Office: 17 Bloomsbury Square, London. RICHARD BREMIDGE, Secretary.

ELECTION OF FOUR ANNUITANTS,  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1904.

Your VOTES and interest are earnestly solicited on behalf of

**JOHN MORRISS MARJASON,**

Registered Chemist and Druggist, Richmond, Surrey.

Applicant is practically blind; was in business in Richmond for many years, but had to relinquish, owing to failing sight. After paying the Creditors there was little left. Has a delicate wife and daughter; the former earns a few shillings a week at needlework, no other source of income.

The Case is known to and recommended by the Thames Valley Chemists' Association, C. Umney, Esq., 50 Southwark Street, Rex Blanchford, Chemist, Richmond, by whom proxies will be received.

## PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES.

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32/49, Office of this Paper.

## Consular Counsel.

## BRAZIL.

An Austro-Hungarian report on the trade of Curitiba states that the import of chemical and pharmaceutical goods during 1903 amounted to 61,753 milreis, or 16,000 milreis less than in 1902. The import of perfumery and colouring-stuffs was also less than in 1902. There was a considerable falling-off in the import of French perfumery, preference being given to the cheaper German makes. In addition to Germany and France, imports of perfumery also come from Great Britain, the United States, and Portugal, but for cosmetics France is an easy first.

## VENICE.

An Austro-Hungarian consular report on the trade of Venice during 1903 states that the chemical-industry is in a relatively advanced stage of development, in spite of the high import-duties on the raw materials. Competition with the products of the older Continental works is made more difficult by the fact that sulphuric acid, for which the Italian manufacturers have to pay 0.50 lira per 100 kilos, import-duty, is brought into the market as a by-product by the large metallurgical works, and that superphosphates are offered for sale in large quantities, and at comparatively cheap prices. There are five chemical-works open in the province of Venice, which produce chemical manures, sulphuric acid, hydrochloric acid, and superphosphates, their total yearly production being about 320,800 quintals, which is almost entirely consumed in the consular district of Venice.

## TIFLIS.

The export of liquorice-root from Tiflis, which fell off from 1,213,000 poods in 1901 to 742,000 poods in 1902, increased in 1903 to 1,294,000 poods, valued at 1,190,000r. The increase is attributed to the fact that an English company has now undertaken the exploitation of liquorice. Drugs and medicines came from Germany, but France and Austria-Hungary also participated, the latter chiefly in mineral waters. The wholesale trade in chemicals and drugs is in the hands of the Caucasian Drug-trade Co., which has an annual turnover of 1½ million roubles, and supplies practically the whole country. Essential oils came from Germany, France, and England. A few Russian firms have branch houses at Tiflis. The total imports of flowers of sulphur amounted to about 54,000r. in value, and came from Italy and France. Sulphate of copper came exclusively from England to the value of 140,000r. The demand for sulphur and copper sulphate, which are used as a remedy against disease of the vines, is annually increasing.

**ENFORCING THE LAWS.**—The State of Ohio has an anti-cocaine law, a poison law, and a pharmacy law. All three are excellent measures except that no provision is made for their enforcement. It is now proposed to make a departure from the customary rule in the United States and have the State Food and Dairy Commissioner charged with the duty of executing these statutes. A Bill to this effect will be introduced in the State Legislature at an early date. In most of the States the laws affecting pharmacists are in the hands of the State Board of Pharmacy for enforcement.

**A WELL-DEFINED MOVEMENT** is gathering force in America towards an advancement in the preliminary requirements demanded of all students upon entering colleges of pharmacy. The reformers sought to have the Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties take a definite stand for higher requirements at the recent Kansas City meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association. The effort was side-tracked for the present, but the discussion which has been carried on since the meeting indicates that the agitation will be continued until results are yielded. What is known in this country as a grammar-school education, which the average boy acquires by the time he is thirteen or fourteen, is all that is exacted by the great majority of our pharmaceutical colleges. A few university schools demand a high-school course, which is ordinarily completed by the student of from eighteen to nineteen years old. The supporters of the present reform movement want a high-school course universally demanded.



**A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.**  
ESTABLISHED 1859.

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Telephone No.: 852 Bank.

**Branch Offices: ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, AND SYDNEY,  
AUSTRALIA.**

**AS AN OFFICIAL ORGAN**

**THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST** is supplied by subscription to the whole of the members of **NINETEEN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES** in the British Empire, including Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the West Indies.

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Ten shillings a year in advance, post free to any part of the world, including a copy of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary* next published. Single copy, 4d.; Summer or Winter Number, 1s.; *Diary*, 3s. 6d. Postal orders and cheques to be crossed "Martin's Bank (Limited)."

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**Circulars and Price-lists**

sent by post are apt to return again to the sender, or to find their way, unopened, into the waste-paper basket. Manufacturers and wholesalers should avoid this sort of thing by entrusting their distribution to **THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST**. Our subscription-register is the surest way to buyers of all classes of goods connected with the drug and chemical trades. It is kept up to date by corrections almost daily; it represents the cream—nay, the total solids—of the trade of the British Empire and the best of foreign buyers. The Winter Issue of **THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST**, on January 28, 1905, is reserved for insets, and the Publisher will be glad to give inquirers printed particulars about the getting-up of insets, charges for distribution, etc. Those who decide soonest to have an inset in the Winter Issue will have the best chance of getting the pick of the positions.

**Summary.**

THE Egyptian Pharmacy Ordinance has been withdrawn (p. 896).

A STARTLING and substantial advance has taken place in bismuth and salts (p. 919).

THE mineral constituents of sumach are discussed by Mr. S. R. Trotman in a paper reported on p. 912.

MR. WILLIAM CAUDERY, the founder of a well-known London firm of chemical-brokers, died last week (p. 905).

SEVERAL INFRINGEMENTS of the Pharmacy Act in the West of Scotland have resulted in convictions reported on p. 899.

THE 17. REGISTRATION-FEE for medical students is likely to be abandoned in consequence of the opposition of the English Royal Colleges (p. 923).

MUSTARD-LEAVES are the subject of an interesting paper by Mr. A. W. Gerrard, who gives a formula that works better than the official one (p. 915).

THE proposed official tests for arsenic have been discussed by Mr. E. W. Mann, who thinks they are reasonable on the whole, but not in respect to mineral acids (p. 914).

A REPRINT of the British Pharmacopoeia will soon be required. Preparations are being made for revision of the work, but it will be several years before a new edition is ready (p. 925).

DR. DONALD MACALISTER has been appointed President of the General Medical Council in succession to Sir William-Turner, K.C.B. (p. 926). Some particulars of his career are given on p. 910.

THE "Hæmatogen" trade-mark appeal has resulted in the confirmation of Mr. Justice Warrington's decision that "Hæmatogen" should be removed from the Trade-marks-Register (p. 899).

IN PRESCRIBING PROPRIETARIES doctors are recommended by the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association not to use names by which patients can afterwards buy the things (p. 911).

THE ADVANCE in the price of sugar gives "Xrayser" and ourselves cause for comment. We show that speculation is the cause of inflated prices, but that the Brussels Convention contributes (p. 911).

MAN'S relation to the flora of Scotland was the subject of an address by Professor J. W. H. Traill, F.R.S., which is epitomised on p. 930. Some notes on Professor Traill's career will be found on p. 896.

THE GERMAN SPIRIT INDUSTRY is concerned about the present condition of the trade, and has appealed to the Government for some amelioration of the production-conditions. See the article on p. 905.

SIR JOSEPH SWAN, presiding at the annual dinner of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, delivered an address on qualification in pharmacy and the differences between British and Dutch styles (p. 927).

MR. R. A. ROBINSON, speaking at Tunbridge Wells on the pharmacy legislation, intimated that he has secured the support of Mr. Crooks, the labour M.P., to the principle "every man to his own business" (p. 902).

IN an unfair-competition action which they have had to defend in the District Court of Hamburg the Jeyses Co. have proved that Cyllin is four times stronger than creolin and eleven times stronger than carbolic acid (p. 809).

DO CHEMISTS give school-absence certificates? It appears from the opinion of Mr. Muir Mackenzie that it is legal for them to do so. The question arose in consequence of a Bootle "chemist" giving such a certificate and the British Medical Association complaining (p. 823).

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL has written to the Privy Council expressing the hope that the Government will take steps to prevent the provisions of the Medical and Dental Acts being evaded by persons improperly taking advantage of the provisions of the Companies Acts (pp. 912 and 927).

AMONG the articles that have advanced in the drug and chemical trades are carbolic acid, bismuth and salts, benzols, refined camphor, nitrate of soda, and vanilla; among those with a downward tendency are tartaric and citric acids, juniper-berries, vanillin, and quinine. Turpentine and petroleum are lower (p. 919).

DISPENSING REFEATS has been the subject of a conference between the Medico-Legal Committee of the British Medical Association and representatives of the Pharmaceutical Society, with the result that the former recommend prescribers to write their names in full, as well as the date, and to state how often the prescription is to be dispensed. The last condition is said to make further dispensing illegal, which we doubt (p. 919).

## English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Brevities.

The next Chemists' Exhibition will take place at Covent Garden Theatre, March 13 to 17, 1905.

The case of Goss, Ltd., v. Papier Poudré was down for hearing by Mr. Justice Kekewich in Chambers on Wednesday.

Messrs. Scott & Bowne, Ltd., have contributed 75*l.* to the "Boot Fund" now being raised by the "Evening News."

The anniversary meeting of the Royal Society was held on St. Andrew's Day, and the members dined together at the Hôtel Métropole in the evening.

The Chertsey Board of Guardians have adopted the recommendation of the Local Government Board that all drugs required in the workhouse shall be provided by the Guardians instead of by the doctor. The annual cost will be 20*l.*

The Patent-medicine Vendors and Drug-stores Association have issued a pamphlet entitled "Chemists v. Drug-stores. Do Chemists protect the Public? Pharmacy Act Amendment Bill, 1904." It includes solely reports of meetings of the Association held on March 16 and on June 22, both of which we dealt with at the time.

At 26 Westwell Street, Plymouth, on November 26, Mr. H. P. Hearder, chemist and druggist, and his son, Mr. H. N. Hearder, chemist and druggist, gave a demonstration of the physical and chemical properties of radium before a gathering of medical men. The specimens for the occasion were supplied by Dr. W. Harrison Martindale.

At a meeting of the Worcester Infirmary Committee on November 21, the Chairman said the committee had all been startled of late by the amount of the drug-bill, representing everything included in the medical department. Last year the amount was 1,341*l.*, nearly 100*l.* higher than it ever was before. A sub-committee was appointed to investigate the matter with the honorary medical staff.

The quarterly report of the public analyst of Camberwell states that during the three months eleven samples of pepsin and three samples of saffron were examined under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. All were genuine, with the exception of two of the samples of pepsin, which were respectively deficient 60 and 65 per cent. in dissolving-power. Proceedings were taken, and in each case the vendor was fined 5*s.*, with 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* costs.

The wide-awake pharmacist will not fail to make capital out of the fact that two deaths occurred last week from blood-poisoning set up by injury caused in the cutting of corns. The victims were the Rev. T. M. Rees, of Holyhead, and a Stoke Newington octogenarian named Curtis Franklin. At the inquest on the latter the Coroner commented on the danger attending such an operation, and said he knew of several deaths that had resulted from the cutting of corns.

### Early Closing at Work.

On and after January 1, 1905, the chemists of Leominster have agreed to the following hours of business: daily from 8 A.M. to 7 P.M.; Thursdays, from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. and from 6 to 8 P.M.; Saturdays, from 8 A.M. to 10 P.M. There will be night attendance (for necessities only) from 7 to 8 P.M.

### St. Louis Exhibition Awards.

The British Commissioner for the St. Louis Exhibition has sent us the following awards additional to those published in the C. & D., October 22 and November 12:

#### CLASS 80. FERTILISERS.

*Gold Medal.* The United Alkali Co., Ltd.

#### CLASS 87. FARINACEOUS PRODUCTS AND THEIR DERIVATIVES.

*Gold Medal.* Allen & Hanburys, Ltd.

### Institute of Chemistry.

The following candidates passed the examination in biological chemistry, held on October 25 to 28. Fellow: Robert Macfarlane Clark, B.Sc. (Glasgow); Associates: Francis William Frederick Arnaud, Henry Wulff Kinnisley, Louis John Eczekiel Riley. Candidates for the Associateship: Walter Augustus Handcock, Francis Richard Henley, M.A. (Oxon.).

### Jersey Dues.

The Jersey Wharfage Dues Bill came into operation on November 28. Extra duties are now imposed on all imported horses, cattle, vehicles, cycles, wood, paraffin, wines, and spirits, while a duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton is placed on all other articles. There is a minimum charge of 1*d.* per parcel, with the exception of postage parcels, which are exempt.

### Institute of Opticians.

A meeting in furtherance of the scheme for founding an Institute of Opticians, of which particulars were given in the C. & D., October 8, page 615, was held on November 23 at the Cannon Street Hotel. The proposed memorandum and articles of association were discussed by the meeting, which consisted of opticians holding the sight-testing diploma of the Spectacle-makers' Company. It was unanimously decided that the proposed Institute be constituted, and that steps be taken to place the Institute on a legal basis.

### A "Consumption-cure."

In the King's Bench Division of the High Court last week, a Mrs. Long brought an action against Dr. Boyd for damages, on the ground that he had not pushed a consumption-cure which, the plaintiff alleged, he had promised to do. The case was heard by Mr. Justice Lawrence and a common jury, and created great amusement. Sir William Broadbent was called as a witness, but he did not know what he was called for. It appeared that the plaintiff's preparation is a "blending of herbs," and that she has been writing to the King about it for years. The jury, without leaving the box, gave a verdict for the defendant. The plaintiff again appeared before the Court on Tuesday, complaining that certain papers had printed something to the effect that the cure had killed two people, but the Judge said he could do nothing for her.

### Industrial Alcohol Committee.

A meeting of the Committee appointed to inquire into the use of Duty-free Alcohol for Industrial Purposes, was held at Somerset House on Tuesday, November 29. The members present were Sir H. W. Primrose, K.C.B., C.S.I. (Chairman), Sir William Crookes, Dr. T. E. Thorpe, C.B., Dr. W. Somerville, Mr. L. D. Nicholson, and Mr. T. Tyrer. The witnesses examined were Professor Meldola, of the Finsbury Technical College, and Dr. C. Dreyfus, of the Clayton Aniline Co., Manchester. The Committee met again on November 30, when Mr. R. W. S. Griffith, of the Schultze Gunpowder Co., Eyeworth, Lyndhurst; Mr. W. H. Bagley, of Messrs. Samuel Heath & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; and Mr. F. Barlow, of the Dalton Manufacturing Co., Manchester, and the Birmingham Lacquer Co., Ltd., were examined.

It is expected that the witnesses for pharmaceutical chemistry and the wholesale drug-trade, viz., Mr. David Howard, Mr. E. A. Webb, and Mr. John C. Umney—will have given their evidence by December 12. We understand that the wholesale druggists have got together some excellent statistical evidence. The following is a letter written by Mr. H. Entwistle of the Manchester Process and Wood Engravers' Association, who gave evidence before the Committee on November 16:

I was asked for what purposes alcohol was used in the process-trade. Of course, I told them chiefly for the manufacture of collodion for negative-making, collodion for stripping-purposes, as a constituent of developers, as a thinning-medium for collodion which has become too thick for use, and as a dehydrating agent in the case of the rapid drying of dry-plate negatives. In answer to a question as to the objections to the use of mineralised spirit, I stated that the impurities caused fog, and generally upset the silver bath. Dr. Thorpe did not appear to think, however, that unmineralised spirit, which can be obtained under special Excise regulations was detrimental. I, however, quoted Sir William de W. Abney, who states that methylated alcohol of any kind is not suitable for use in collodion. I also pointed out the great saving in cost if we were allowed to use absolute alcohol duty free, giving the price for methylated spirit at about 3*d.* per lb. and the price of absolute alcohol as 4*s.* 6*d.* per lb., nearly all of this difference being accounted for by the Excise-duty. Dr. Thorpe asked me why I objected to the use of methylated alcohol, and did not object to use Maw-

son's collodion, which he inferred contained methylated ether? I told him that if the duty on alcohol was done away with there would be no inducement to use methylated solvents of any kind, and that therefore there was less likelihood of anything going wrong with the silver bath, which at present is by no means a rare occurrence.

#### Twenty Years to Pay a Debt.

On Tuesday, November 29, at the Bloomsbury County Court, the Mc-Mosa Co., 19 East Street, W., sued Mr. S. A. Cohen, reputed to have a chemist's business with several branches in the East-end of London, upon a judgment summons for 207. 0s. 5d., obtained on March 4, 1904. Defendant had written a long letter to the Registrar of the court, and Judge Bacon, having perused it, remarked: What absurd rubbish is this?

Defendant (smiling): Yes, your Worship. (Laughter.)

Judge Bacon: I am glad to hear you agree it is rubbish. There is a judgment against you, which you cannot go behind, and the only question is how you can satisfy the judgment.

Defendant: I only earn four or five shillings a week.

Judge Bacon: Which is it, four or five? (Laughter.)

For the plaintiffs it was stated that Cohen has a shop at 253 Commercial Road and one at 115 Cannon Street Road, E. In all he had a business with three or four branches.

Defendant (to plaintiff's representative): What are you speaking about? I have not got one shop. I used to have four. I lost 600!. When you see me there it is only because I go round to help the doctor, who gives me three or four shillings because the customers know me.

The Representative: But you buy. Do you mean to tell his Honour that you only get 5s. a week in such a responsible position? You admit you buy?

Judge Bacon: He has not admitted it at all. He says he only goes round to help. Is that all you have, Cohen?

Defendant: My sons allow me 10s. or 12s. a week.

Plaintiff: He admits he pays the rent of the places.

Judge Bacon: Do you mean to rob the Mc-Mosa Co., Cohen?

Defendant: No; I will pay if I am in a position to pay. Last year, when I was in a position, I offered them 20s. a month, which they refused to accept.

An order for the payment of 2s. a month was made.

#### Birmingham Notes.

Shirley has been visited by a severe attack of diphtheria, due, it is said, to bad water. The schools have been closed for two weeks, and Selly Park pharmacists and the medicos have been busy.

Priestley relics were an attraction at a bazaar in connection with his centenary opened in the Town Hall, Birmingham, on November 30. Handsome subscriptions have been announced, and Sir J. T. Brunner, Bart., M.P., is to assist at one of the daily opening functions.

Police-constable King, called to deal with a case of hydrochloric-acid poisoning, hastily scraped a quantity of white-wash off the ceiling and walls of the house, gave it to the would-be suicide, and saved his life. It acted as an alkali and an emetic.

The local Association have made an agreeable change in their place of meeting. Instead of the cold room at the University and its hard pitch-pine benches, No. 3 room at the Grand Hotel was used on Tuesday, and on a vote being taken as to whether smoking be allowed, a compromise was adopted, this to come on after the reading of the papers and during the discussion. Judging from the latter, "My Lady Nicotine" is certainly a stimulus to debate.

#### The Doctor's Prie.

At a meeting of the Pembroke Guardians on November 28, a letter from Dr. Jones, the medical officer, was read, in which he said he could not supply vouchers for cod-liver oil supplied by him, as it was sent with other goods. One guardian said that 5s. a pint was too dear. The price-lists quoted 2s. a pint for the best cod-liver oil—a vast difference. Another said that the mistake was in shifting from the chemists for cod-liver oil, and he moved that in future the oil be got from the chemists. It was stated that the doctor was supposed to supply at cost *plus* carriage. The doctor's bill was ultimately referred back to Dr. Jones, as the charge was considered excessive.

#### The L.G.B. Dissents.

The Barnstaple Town Council on November 28 received from the Local Government Board a letter declining to assent to the appointment of Mr. F. W. Stoddart as public analyst, and requesting the Council to continue the services of Dr. Winter Blyth, whose appointment had not been determined with the consent of the Board. The Mayor explained that the appointment of Mr. Stoddart meant a saving of 20/- a year in fees, and Alderman A. F. Seldon moved that the Board be asked why the Council could not retain the services of Mr. Stoddart, who was a fully qualified man. This was adopted.

#### Sheffield Notes.

Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme represented pharmacy at the annual dinner of the Sheffield University College held at the Royal Victoria Hotel on November 25.

The gross takings of the University opera week exceeded 1,500/-, and resulted in a profit of 457. 5s. 2d., which will be equally divided between the Women's Endowment Fund and the New Buildings and Endowment Fund.

At Sheffield County Court on November 25, Joseph Bolton, herbalist, sued the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of Sheffield for 2/- 10s. damages sustained by him owing to their allowing an emission of fine dust from the chimney of their electric-power station, the dust falling on plaintiff's goods and damaging them. Plaintiff is a stallholder in the Sheaf Market, and he produced samples of his herbs and pills damaged by grit, which he also produced. The wholesale price of the herbs, he said, varies from 6d. to 5s. per lb., and the pills cost from 5s. to 12s. per lb. Judgment was ultimately given for the defendants, without costs.

#### The Hospital Pantry.

At Liverpool on November 26, an inquest was held on the body of a seaman named Samuel Storey (28), who died in the Stanley Hospital. Mary Wilkinson, a ward-sister, stated that in the medicine pantry were kept certain bottles for testing purposes, and also bottles of solutions of magnesium sulphate and caustic soda which were similar to each other, and the liquids were nearly the same colour. The magnesium sulphate was often used as an aperient, but the caustic soda was seldom called for. The bottles containing poison used for testing purposes were kept on a tray on a table in the pantry. Nurse Howse went for an aperient for deceased, and gave Storey a dose. Directly afterwards witness heard him shouting and found him delirious. It was found that deceased had been given caustic soda. He died two days after. Both the bottles were alike in shape and colour, and bore white labels and not the red "poison" label. Alice Howse in the course of her evidence said the aperient-bottles were kept together on a shelf in the pantry, and the caustic-soda bottle was also on the same shelf. The bottles were liable to get together. She discovered that she had given the deceased caustic soda instead of magnesium when she gave another patient a dose from the same bottle. The second patient only took a small portion of the liquid and complained of a burning sensation. Catherine Mary King, dispenser at the hospital, deposed that the poisons for testing-purposes were kept in the pantry. Expecting them to be kept separate from other liquids, she did not think it was necessary to attach red labels to the bottles.

The Coroner: Supposing you had known it was kept where it was liable to be mixed with other bottles, what would you do?—Witness: I should label it with the red "poison" label.

The Coroner: Don't you think that all poisons under the circumstances should be labelled with the red "poison" label?—Witness: Yes, I do.

Dr. Murphy, who was at the time resident at the hospital, said it was doubtful whether deceased would have recovered, even if he had not swallowed the caustic soda. Dr. Douglas Crawford gave similar evidence. In answer to questions by the Coroner, witness admitted that it would be advisable to keep bottles containing poisonous substances separate from other medicine-bottles and labelled "Poison." Dr. Serefura, resident medical officer at the hospital, also testified to the critical condition of the man. He considered that septic poisoning was the cause of death. Dr. Nathan Raw described the results of the *post-mortem* examination. The body was in a bad condition, but the caustic soda would

undoubtedly have a damaging effect upon his chances of recovery. Even although the man was going to die the taking of the caustic soda would have accelerated the end. Witness expressed the opinion that all poisons should be kept under lock and key, and that it would be wise to label them. Asked whether the caustic soda would have killed the man had he been in reasonable health, witness answered in the affirmative. He understood the deceased took at least 90 grains of caustic soda. That was putting it at a very small amount, as the nurse said she gave the man an ounce. If she gave him an ounce, she must have given him about 200 grains, and a fatal dose of caustic soda was about 40 grains.

The jury returned a verdict of death by misadventure, and recommended that all poisons should be labelled and kept in a separate place.

#### Chemists Commended.

Mr. D. R. Rowlands, chemist and druggist, and Mr. W. T. Fore, chemist and druggist, of Birkenhead, were on November 30 complimented by the Birkenhead Peneh upon their action in frustrating an attempted suicide. A man named Sidney Gilbert Beaumont went to Mr. Rowlands's shop and asked for threepennyworth of oxalic acid "to clean the brasses." Mr. Rowlands was not, however, disposed to serve him as he had been warned some time before by Mrs. Beaumont that her husband had threatened to take poison. But Beaumont was determined to purchase the acid, and Mr. Rowlands eventually made up a packet of Epsom salts and labelled it "Oxalic acid: poison." Beaumont afterwards went to a public-house, obtained half a glass of brandy, and poured the "poison" into it. The barman, however, took the glass away from him. Beaumont some time afterwards went to the shop of Mr. Fore and purchased some oxalic acid. Mr. Fore became suspicious, however, and followed him home. Finding that Beaumont had swallowed the poison he and Mr. Rowlands administered an emetic and Beaumont was removed to the borough hospital. The house surgeon said that had it not been for the prompt action of the chemists Beaumont would not have survived. At the subsequent police-court proceedings the Chairman, after hearing the evidence, expressed the opinion that Beaumont owed his life to the promptitude with which the chemists concerned had followed up the case. He thanked Mr. Rowlands and Mr. Fore, in the name of the town, for their action. Beaumont was sent to the workhouse.

#### Opium in the Fens.

At Spalding, on November 26, an inquest was held on Betsy Hanes (74), who had died after taking laudanum. Evidence was given by Mr. Edward H. Flower, chemist and druggist, manager of the Spalding branch of Talbot's Drug-stores, who said he had had twenty-four years' experience in the drug trade, four at Spalding. He supplied the deceased with an ounce of laudanum on the previous Saturday morning. He had not previously served her, but knew from her appearance that she was an habitual laudanum-drinker, and on asking her she admitted it. Like most laudanum-drinkers, she came in in a great hurry, without either hat or jacket, and asked him not to trouble to wrap up the bottle, as she had left the door open. In reply to the Coroner witness said the characteristic signs of a laudanum-drinker were known to any chemist of experience—they had drawn features, haggard look, and very peculiar eyes, the pupils being contracted. Laudanum was taken to an enormous extent in that district. He had from forty to fifty customers for laudanum per week, and he had sold more laudanum during his four years at Spalding than during the whole of his previous twenty years experience. After other evidence the Coroner (Dr. E. Cragg), addressing the jury, said the chemist was a qualified man, who had done all that the law required of him, and was therefore in no way to blame. He also had had his wits about him, and, observing that the deceased had the usual symptoms, questioned her on the point, and to him she admitted that she was addicted to the habit. The Coroner then proceeded to give the jury some particulars of the demoralising effects of opium upon habitual takers. He said the deception they practised was remarkable, and many had been addicted to the habit for years without anybody knowing it but the doctor and the chemist—not

even members of their families. A verdict was returned that death was the result of the after effects of an overdose of laudanum taken without criminal intent.

#### Doctors and Secret Remedies.

At an inquest held by Mr. Drew at Fulham, on November 26, on a woman named Fitzcosta, who died from cancer, it was stated that for a long time she refused to see a doctor for the pain, but preferred to take "Doan's backache pills." Dr. Godfrey D. Hindley attributed death to cerebral hemorrhage from cancer of the brain and said he wished to draw attention to the fact that the deceased had taken these pills, which, he said, "are very bad things."

The Coroner said he did not know anything at all about them.

The doctor said it was scandalous the way people took such secret remedies instead of going to a proper surgeon.

The Coroner: Do you say the death was accelerated by the pills?—No, sir, but they cause delay in treatment.

The Coroner: Yes, that is the danger. The advertisements of some of these remedies are so framed that they apply to every real or fancied disease; and people think the remedies will relieve them. In that way they try first one thing and then another and wait to see the effect until it is too late for a doctor to do any good.

At the same court an inquiry was held relative to the death from broncho-pneumonia of Florence Shaw, aged seven weeks. The child had no medical treatment during life. It had had a little cough, and the mother went to Boots Cash Chemists, Ltd., in King Street, Hammersmith, where she obtained a bottle of cough-mixture. The child died two days afterwards. The bottle (produced) was labelled :

Goulding's Children's Cough-mixture. Perfectly safe and reliable. It speedily relieves coughs, colds, etc. . . . Contains neither opium nor laudanum. . . . Wholesale dept., 2 Regent Street, Sheffield. Sole selling agents, Boots, Cash Chemists.

Harry Green Davis, manager of Boots' branch in King Street, Hammersmith, said he knew nothing about the sale of the mixture to the mother.

Mrs. Shaw said it was at this shop she bought it, but the witness was not the one who served her.

Mr. Davis said it may have been one of his assistants.

The Coroner: What does it contain?

Witness: I don't know; it is a proprietary medicine. It does not contain poison.

Dr. A. F. Miller said death was due to broncho-pneumonia. He could not say death would have been averted if it had been treated by a qualified medical man during life. He did not think the medicine did any harm or any good in itself, but it gave the parents a false sense of security, and they waited to see the possible results.

The Coroner said that was the second case in which doctors had impressed on them the danger of the delay caused by taking such medicines instead of going to a medical man. What more could they want to show how absolutely ludicrous it was to buy such secret remedies than the vivid example in this case, where the seller admitted that neither he nor his assistants knew what they were actually selling. He (the Coroner) pointed out that in some countries secret remedies were unknown, the makers having to declare the contents.

The jury then returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

#### The Week's Poisonings.

Six of the twelve fatalities from poisoning that have occurred during the week were misadventures rather a greater proportion than usual. The caustic-soda error at Liverpool is dealt with elsewhere; the only other unscheduled poison was phosphorus paste taken by Florence Willock, of North Nibley. The three deaths caused by laudanum were misadventures. The Spalding case is referred to elsewhere; another victim was John Ball (62), a Hunsley joiner, who obtained 1 oz. from Mr. J. J. Rainey, chemist, Spilsby, who knew deceased as a regular laudanum customer. The third laudanum-poisoning was at Gateshead, where an overdose was accidentally taken by a saddler, named Thomas Nevins. At an inquest on the body of Emily Hobinstock, of Gibson Square, N., it was

stated that deceased had been in the habit of using an injection of morphine twice a day. Eighteen years ago a prescription for hypodermic injection of morphine was given her by her medical man for a particular complaint. Despite the warnings of her daughter and of Dr. Meredith Rowe, deceased continued to use the injection, and she died suddenly from bronchitis accelerated by morphine. The evidence of Mr. A. H. Tuffin, chemist and druggist, of Barnsbury Road, was to the effect that he had supplied deceased with 2 oz. 2 dr. of morphine injection for three years, in accordance with the prescription produced. The Coroner (Dr. G. Danford Thomas): Thirty-six doses per week. And you had no alternative but to continue to supply her in the authority of the prescription?—I was bound to do so by law; we cannot refuse—cannot even exercise our own common sense in the matter. The Coroner referred to the harm done by dispensing old prescriptions, and the jury, in returning a verdict of death by misadventure, agreed with the Coroner as to the need of an amendment of the existing law and practice with regard to chemists obeying medical prescriptions involving the sale of poisons.—Three carbolic-acid suicides are recorded—Mary Preigge, of Liverpool; Iris Kate Mumby, of Birkenhead, and John Warrender, of Newport, Salop. The last-named was found dead at Shirland. He had purchased a bottle of carbolic acid from Mr. K. Daykin, chemist and druggist, Clay Cross. The jury brought in the unusual verdict of *felo-de-se*.—Clapham Buskard Hambling, a medical student at St. Bart's Hospital, committed suicide with chloroform.—Hannah Yardley, of Horwich, killed herself with rat-poison.—Caroline Sophia Palmer, of Hanley, who suffered from insomnia, was given a mixture by her doctor to be taken as a sleeping-draught occasionally. She died from—it is presumed—an overdose of the mixture, the composition of which was not stated at the inquest.

## Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Tenders Invited.

The Governors of the Mullingar District Lunatic Asylum invite tenders for medicines, etc., for twelve months. Tenders to be sent in before December 15.

### Drug-tender Accepted.

The Sligo Infirmary has accepted the tender of the Sligo Drug Co., Ltd., for medicines at 65 per cent. off the L.G.B.'s list and 10 per cent. off outside articles.

### Made in Ireland.

The Industrial Committee of the Gallic League has compiled a list of Irish-made goods, which has been issued to the public in leaflet form with the request that they should be supported and specially in the forthcoming Christmas purchases. The articles include paints and colours, perfumes, and drugs.

### Fire.

A fire broke out on November 28, on the premises owned by Mr. T. M. Shannen, known as the Drug Hall, Rathfirlan. The fire originated in a sitting-room over the shop, and the flames were not observed until the pitch-pine ceiling of the shop became ignited. The fire was extinguished before it had got a very good hold, but much damage was done to the stock by water.

### Guardians' Doings.

At the Belfast Guardians' meeting on November 28 a letter was read from the L.G.B. in which it was stated that the analyst's certificate as to the ether purificatus dispute (see *C. & D.*, November 5, page 746) is final.

The L.G.B. has written to the Tuam Board of Guardians calling attention to the large expenditure for medicines, etc., in the Abbey dispensary district of the Union. The cost of medicine for the half-year was at the rate of 6s. for each of the twenty-nine patients treated. A sworn inquiry into the matter is to be held.

A letter was read from Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, at the last meeting of the Ardee Board of Guardians, relative to the unreturned empties. They were willing to pay reasonable charges for the packing and return of the empties,

and would be prepared to pay the workhouse porter 10s. for the packing. The packages due from Drumconrath Dispensary were valued at 17. 18s.

At the last meeting of the Athy Board of Guardians, the correspondence which recently passed between Mr. P. N. White, Sligo, medicine-contractor to the Board, on the return of empties, was considered. The previous week Mr. White's solicitors made a claim for 20*l.*, and then Mr. White was asked to forward another list of the empties due to him. This Mr. White naturally considers unreasonable. The medical officers have told the Guardians that they have sent back all the empties.

### Drug-analyses.

The total number of articles analysed by Sir Charles Cameron for the city of Dublin during the year 1903 was 5,929.

Sir Charles Cameron, in his annual report on the public health of Dublin for 1903, states that the following drugs, analysed for the North Dublin Union, were defective: Compound mixture of senna, low in ash and crystallised magnesium sulphate; tincture of nux vomica, high in alkaloids; Easton's syrup, high in phosphoric acid and quinine sulphate; solution of ammonia, low in ammonia; liquid extract of liquorice, low in solids; compound syrup of iron phosphate, low in ferrous phosphate; tincture of orange, high in solids; tincture of hydrastis, low in solids; cherry laurel water, low in hydrocyanic acid; tincture of cinchona, high in alkaloids; compound tincture of gentian, low in solids; and two specimens of liquid extract of ergot were high in solids. The following drugs, analysed for the Governors of the South Dublin Union, were defective: Ammoniated liniment of camphor, low in ammonia; tincture of cinchona, low in alkaloids; liniment of aconite, high in camphor; solution of magnesium carbonate, contained a considerable precipitate; solution of ferric chloride, slightly low in iron; strong acetic acid, high in gravity; tincture of nux vomica, deficient in strychnine; concentrated solution of senega, high in solids and alcohol; solution of strychnine hydrochloride, contained not a trace of strychnine hydrochloride, whereas it should contain at least 1 per cent. Two specimens of compound tincture of cardamoms were also defective: one was high in solids and the other was high in gravity and alcohol. A sample of compound liquorice powder, analysed for Dr. Burgess, Westland Row, was correct.

## Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### A Drug-contract.

The Falkirk Town Council has placed the year's supply of medicines to the burgh hospital with Messrs. Cockburn & Co., chemists, High Street, Falkirk.

### Laudanum-poisonings.

James McLeish, an Alloa brewery-worker, drank six-pennyworth of laudanum on November 23, and died in the hospital. A man named Jackson poisoned himself with laudanum on November 22, in a Dumfries hotel.

### The Gunning Prize.

The Council of the Royal Society of Edinburgh has decided to award Professor Sir James Dewar, F.R.S., the Gunning Victoria Jubilee prize for 1900-4 for his researches on the liquefaction of gases extending over the last quarter of a century, and on the chemical and physical properties of substances at low temperatures.

### The Chemist-photographer.

Mr. Robert Sinclair, chemist, High Street, Falkirk, gave a demonstration of the methods of toning bromide prints, under the auspices of the Falkirk Amateur Photographic Association, on November 26. The lecture was so much enjoyed that Mr. Sinclair was requested and agreed to give another demonstration on the same subject.

### Dundee Notes.

The fine sheet of bent glass at the corner of Messrs. Davidson & Gray's frontage was broken by a cart on November 30. As the panel cannot be replaced for some weeks, the accident has occurred at an awkward time.

The editor of the "Wizard of the North" (Mr. James Russell, chemist and druggist), a monthly of wisdom, wit, and humour, announces the semi-jubilee of his paper, which he has carried on with consistent ability and chiefly with his own pencil and pen.

The system adopted by the makers of Veno's medicines of advertising one chemist only in large centres is one which does not please the other chemists, for there is evidence that this system benefits one chemist at the expense of others. A young woman has been engaged in dispensing free doses in Mr. James Anderson's shop.

Dundee chemists make a good appearance as advertisers in the local Press. Ferrier's cough-balsam now contains the much-recommended extract of seaweed. The "champion chilblain-liniment" of Mr. Charles Kerr ought to be in brisk demand during this cold snap. A new remedy for eczema has been placed on the local market under the name of "Blemrid," which sounds very like the name of a popular official in Bloomsbury Square.

A local chemist is advertising "a bottle of perfume free." Free sample-bottles of No. 54 "Prize Medal" eau de Cologne are offered to every customer applying for them. Any customer may have his (or her) handkerchief "sprayed with the newest and most popular perfumes of the season free," and any lady customer at a distance wishing to try the new season's "Violet de Parme" perfume, from Violet, Paris, will receive a sample-bottle by sending a stamped addressed envelope.

#### Personal.

Mr. James Hendrick, who has succeeded the late Mr. A. H. Allen on the Council of the Institute of Chemistry, is a B.Sc. of Glasgow University. He is analyst for the county of Aberdeen and lecturer on agricultural chemistry at Aberdeen University. He has taken a prominent part in the formation of the Aberdeen and North of Scotland Agricultural College, which is worked in conjunction with the University. He is the author of several scientific papers, chiefly of an analytical nature.

Professor Traill, who opened the session of the North British Branch last week, is a well-known scientific figure in the North. He is the author of many scientific papers bearing on entomology and botany which have been published from time to time during the past thirty-five years in the "Scottish Naturalist Annals of Scottish Natural History," "Journal of Botany," and the "Transactions" of the Aberdeen Natural History Society, the Edinburgh Botanical Society, and the Buchan Field Club. His botanical papers deal with the palms of Amazonia, galls and fungi of Norway, fungi, flowering-plants and ferns of Scotland, and other subjects. Quite recently he contributed to the Buchan Field Club, of which Mr. J. F. Tocher (Peterhead) is Secretary, two memoirs on the flora of Buchan, extending to 152 pages and treating exhaustively on the indigenous and other flora of that wide area. Professor Traill took his M.A. degree in 1870 and his medical degree in 1876. During a portion of the interval (1873-75) he acted as naturalist to an expedition to the Amazon Valley. On that occasion he travelled over 15,000 miles and brought home a large collection of plants and animals, including many novelties. He became Professor of Botany in Aberdeen University on March 30, 1877, and has been Dean of the Faculty of Science there since its formation. He taught the zoology class during the season of 1879-1880, and was captain of the University (No. 8) Battery 1st A.V.A. for eight years. During the years 1882 to 1885 he was Provost of Old Aberdeen, a burgh which has since been merged in the city of Aberdeen. He has been a member of the University Court since 1897, and curator of the University Library since 1892. From 1895 to 1900 he acted as examiner in botany to the University of London. A few months ago he was appointed to fill the place of Professor Power on the Pharmaceutical Board of Examiners for Scotland. Professor Traill is very popular in Aberdeen, and is genial and kindly disposed towards students, by whom he is well liked. He is a hard worker, and, on his own and kindred subjects, is very enthusiastic. As a systematic botanist he is the most prominent figure in Scotland.

#### French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

VANILLA FROM OCEANIA.—A recent French Customs Circular contains a copy of a Presidential Decree, dated September 2, 1904, fixing at 15,000 kilos. the quantity of vanilla, the produce of French establishments in Oceania, which may be imported into France at half the ordinary tariff-rates during the period from July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905.

THE NEW MILITARY LAW, which seems likely to pass shortly, abolishes the privilege granted to university (including pharmacy) students. Henceforth they will have to serve two years, like their fellow-citizens. The effect is already manifest in many faculties, as thousands of young Frenchmen preferred five or six years' extra study and one in the army to the full term of three years with the colours. The universities naturally feel the financial loss, as a diminution in students means a diminution in fees, and the unhappy taxpayer may be asked to make good the deficiency.

"PICTURES BY RADIUM."—"Call in and see me and I will show you a new American process for taking off pictures by radium." So ran the wording of a note from a photographer named Harduin, of Montreuil, near Paris, to a competitor in the photographic line with whom he was acquainted. The latter promptly responded to the invitation, and, as his photograph was to be taken by the new system, he allowed himself to be strapped to a plank. When he was bound Harduin brandished a razor and revolver and told his would-be victim to choose his own manner of death. With the energy of despair the latter broke his bonds and escaped. When he returned shortly afterwards with the police, Harduin was found dead, shot by his own hand. He was an alcoholic maniac, and professional jealousy was the reason of his attempted crime.

THE WHITE-LEAD INDUSTRY.—The "Matin" points out that the decree of July, 1902, laying down certain precautions for the protection of workmen in white-lead factories, reduced the mortality by one-half during the period its regulations were really observed. A more recent decree (July, 1904) called to mind the preceding regulations and extended them to painting-contracts. But the "Matin" agitates for the total prohibition of the use of white-lead for the painting of buildings, etc. The Chamber of Deputies appears favourable, but the proposed law has less chance to pass the Senate. In fact, it is stated that a leading senator, M. Expert Bezangon, stigmatised the "Matin's" project as "a paid campaign" against his industry; and that no libel proceedings are possible on account of the "parliamentary immunity" of the speaker from prosecution. In Paris alone 150 deaths, it appears, are annually attributable to lead-poisoning and 1,500 persons enter the hospitals through the same cause. Five per cent. of the painters are incurably affected. The malady is transmitted to these men's children, but they usually die in infancy.

PHARMACY AT BEAULIEU.—The newest resort, "discovered" and created practically by the late Marquis of Salisbury, is Beaulieu, between Nice and Monaco. It is a pretty place, deserving its name, and one notices each year that the white villas are steadily climbing up the terraced slopes. There are already a couple of pharmacies, corner shops of course—the older and larger one in the Avenue de la Gare, the newer and smaller establishment under the wing of the Hôtel Bristol. Both are as British as possible in their style and arrangements, and the larger one may employ an English assistant during the season, for Beaulieu is a distinctly Anglo-Saxon colony. The avenue leading up to the late Lord Salisbury's residence has been baptised "Boulevard des Anglais." There is a small public garden with a new bandstand, and a post-office redolent of new paint—in fact, it is like an American "city," a place of infinite possibilities. An electric tram brings one to Nice in half an hour. An advertising novelty is the little clock inside the car. One instinctively glances upwards to see the time, and notices the pharmaceutical and other advertisements which surround the dial.

## South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

**F**NOTE.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

South African Pharmaceutical Association.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.  
Natal Pharmaceutical Society.  
Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society.  
Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society.  
Northern District Chemists' Association.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Orange River Colony.

### Cape Colony.

BUSINESS, generally, is decidedly better in Cape Town; and it seems that we have at last turned the ugly corner, although money is still exceedingly scarce.

MR. HAROLD E. WEBB, of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., arrived in Cape Town after a lengthy trip through South Africa. He seems very pleased with what he has seen, and finds business fairly brisk.

The removal of Mr. A. Cleghorn to new premises was recently noticed. The pharmacy is elegantly fitted, and is in a very prominent position. Mr. Darroll, formerly manager, has been taken in as a partner, and the firm are now trading as "Cleghorn & Darroll."

THE CAPE TOWN EXHIBITION is nearing completion, and will open for certain on November 26. Among the many exhibitors connected with the drug-trade are Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Messrs. Day, Son & Hewitt, and the Rheumaticure Co. Other stands are taken by Brand & Co., Bird & Sens, Chiswick Soap Co., Goodall, Backhouse & Co., Luce's Eau de Cologne Co., Odams Manure Co., United Alkali Co., Ltd., Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., and Brathy, Hinckliffe & Co., Ltd.

TRADE-NAMES.—On October 28 an extraordinary general meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony was held at the Y.M.C.A. Board-room. There were present: Mr. J. S. North (President and Chairman), Mr. A. J. Rivett (Lennon, Ltd.), Mr. A. Matew (Heynes, Matew & Co.), Mr. A. E. Tothill, Mr. R. Sainsbury, Mr. T. James, Mr. W. Froembling, Mr. J. Strange, and the Secretary, Mr. J. Dell. General dissatisfaction was felt as to Messrs. Wentzel & Schleswig's notice of intention to register certain names in common use among chemists as trade-marks. The notice was published in the "Cape Argus," and the meeting was called to arrange for objection being made to any of the following: "Dr. Abercromby," "Dr. Javelle," "Denys," "Dr. Bickersteth," "Dr. Fleck," "Monks," "Kangaroo," "Noble," "Richter," and "Velox." It was generally considered necessary to oppose the appropriation of names which from time immemorial have been common property. Mr. A. E. Tothill gave a short sketch of their history, showing that a number of these names were generally in use before even the firm of Wentzel & Schleswig came into existence. Unanimous objection was raised to the words "Dr. Abercromby," "Dr. Bickersteth," and "Dr. Fleck"; and further objections were made against "Dr. Javelle" and "Richter." After a lively discussion Mr. A. J. Rivett proposed, and was seconded by Mr. W. Froembling, that Messrs. Wentzel & Schleswig be asked to give their assurance in writing within a specified time that they would not persist in their endeavours to register the five names objected to. The representative (Mr. Young) of the firm thought he could promise this in respect of the three first mentioned, but not for the last two.

"DAGGA" SCHEDULED.—The following notice has been gazetted from the Colonial Secretary's office:

It is hereby notified for general information that his Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has been pleased, under the provisions of Section 42 of Act 34 of 1891, to notify his intention of including "Cannabis Sativa and its preparations, Dagga, Ganj, and Churrus" as a Poison within the meaning of Division 1, of the third Schedule to Act No. 7 of 1891.

A deputation, consisting of Messrs. North, Strange, Tothill, Froembling, and the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society (Mr. Dell), waited on the Colonial Secretary on November 7 in reference to the scheduling of dagga. After

the introduction, Mr. North said in consequence of the notice appearing in the "Government Gazette" that dagga was to be scheduled as a poison, a meeting of the Society was called, and it was resolved that a deputation be appointed to wait on the Colonial Secretary. Mr. North pointed out that according to the wording of the notice quite a number of proprietary preparations, chlorodyne lozenges, asthma-powder, and corn-solvent would have to be signed for by purchasers in the poison-register, which was surely not wanted by the Government, as it would be unnecessary, and not understood by the public. The Society would like to know on whose recommendation the Government had decided to introduce these measures. A doctor stated that crime is rampant in the country because of the effects of *Dagga capensis* on the niggers' brains, whereas it is certain that this is quite wrong—it only causes them to sleep very heavily. The crimes committed by black men are more likely to be owing to a vile preparation sold them by canteen-keepers, known as "F. C. Brandy" ("Finest Colonial Brandy").

### Natal.

WARREN BROTHERS, of Durban, have opened a business, under the style of "Warren & Trehair," at the Tollgate Pharmacy, Durban.

TENDERS are being invited by the Natal Government for the supply of medicines, drugs, and surgical materials to the Natal Government Asylum and the Central Gaol, Pietermaritzburg; also for the Government Hospital, Durban, and the Central Gaols at Durban and Eshowe (Zululand).

### Orange River Colony.

MESSRS. P. J. PETERSEN & Co., of Eloffsfontein, have secured the contract for twelve months for the supply of drugs, etc., to the Eloffsfontein Section of the Central South African Railway at a discount of 20 per cent. off the official schedule of prices.

## TRANSVAAL CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of this Association was held in the Masonic Hotel, Johannesburg, on November 3, Mr. R. Q. Leeds (resident manager of Messrs. Lennon, Ltd.) in the chair. Upwards of forty members were present, and among them Mr. W. T. Skinn (Secretary of the Association and a member of the firm of Messrs. Turner & Co.), Mr. J. Johnston (Messrs. P. J. Petersen & Co.), Mr. L. Thomas (Messrs. Lowenstein, Ltd.), Mr. C. Keir (Messrs. T. E. Jolly & Co.), Mr. R. Butters, Mr. A. S. Smith (Messrs. Smith, Rive & Co.), Mr. A. MacDonald (Secretary to the Pharmaceutical Society), and Messrs. Rawlinson, Dinwoodie, Rennie, and Martlew. The chief business of the evening was to consider what benefit societies were to be looked upon as *bona fide*, and treated as such, and what were not. Mr. C. Keir said that benefit societies were established for the improvident such as, he regretted to say, many of the miners were—and in the interests of the very poor. Some of the workmen on the mines, although earning fair wages, could not be trusted to put by for a rainy day; consequently their employers, rather than have a sick man on their hands—a man whom they would have to look after in any case—formed benefit societies, and deducted so much from the employés' wages to meet sickness. Circumstances compelled chemists, then, to recognise a *me* benefit society as a *bona-fide* one. Next they had the poor. For the most part the coloured labourers came under this heading. They earned but little money, and in time of illness could not afford to pay full prices for medicines. "But what I want to point out," continued Mr. Keir, "is that wealthy offices and institutions in town, the staffs of which are educated and well paid, are forming themselves into benefit societies, and it was for the meeting to say whether they should recognise such societies; if they did, it seemed to him that they would soon not have any public left to trade with in the ordinary way." A lengthy discussion ensued, and it was decided that a committee should be formed, and the matter dealt with further in committee. Mr. A. S. Smith next gave his ideas on the trading-stamp question. He said his firm had been persuaded to go in for trading-stamps through "Yankee bluff," but since they have found out that all the other chemists are not using the stamps, his firm have dropped them. Other chemists whose businesses are located near each other thereupon arranged between themselves to drop the stamps, after which a motion was moved and passed to the effect that it is *infra dig.* for any chemist to use trading-stamps in his business. Mr. Rawlinson drew the attention of the meeting to certain chemists who have signed the understanding not to cut retail prices below the "blue list," and who are now doing so. The Chairman requested him to hand in his complaint in writing, when it would be attended to.

## Colonial and Foreign News.

SWISS CHEMICAL-MANUFACTURERS have, it is reported, approached German manufacturers outside the rings with a view to forming "a community of interests," but so far without results.

PROPRIETARIES IN SPAIN.—The manufacture of approved foreign remedies in Spain has to be carried out in the laboratory of a Spanish pharmacist. The labels, which are to be written in Spanish, must bear the name and address of this pharmacist. The pharmacist, who is, moreover, answerable for the preparation, may only undertake to make the speciality of one foreign firm.

ARGENTINE TARTARIC AND CITRIC ACIDS.—The Argentine "Boletin Oficial" for October 7 contains the text of a law, dated September 23, exempting from import-duty machinery for use in the manufacture of tartaric acid. The same law reduces the import-duty on tartaric and citric acids by one half, so long as the manufactories established in the country do not produce sufficient quantities for the purposes of the wine-industry.

UNIFORM PRICES IN GERMANY.—It is reported that the Imperial Health Board will have the scheme for fixing uniform dispensing and other charges for medicines throughout Germany ready to submit to the individual States at the end of this year. The representatives of apothekers would then consider it, and express opinions, but it is felt, as prices are higher in South Germany than elsewhere in the Empire, there is no immediate chance of the scheme being carried out.

THE EGYPTIAN PHARMACY REGULATIONS.—The withdrawal of the pharmacy regulations which were made without consulting the persons affected, and which the "Egyptian Gazette" designates as "crude and immature," is made the occasion of a little straight talk to Government officials by the local Press. The system of drawing up elaborate laws and regulations without allowing them to be discussed is condemned as vicious and, moreover, humiliating to the Government.

STRYCHNINE-POISONING.—On November 18 before the Italian Consular Tribunal at Cairo, Umberto Nacamuli (37) was charged with the manslaughter of Nelly Griffith by dispensing strychnine in place of santonin. The accused denied that he made a mistake. The two bottles containing the strychnine and the santonin were kept far apart, and he was in the habit of reading the label on a bottle ten times before dispensing it. He had a full sense of his professional responsibility, and declared that the error was impossible. He was convinced that he had given santonin, and the dose he gave was not dangerous. M. Aristide De Nardo, grandfather of the deceased, and other witnesses related the facts of the case, which were fully reported in the *C. & D.* at the time. Two counsel who appeared for Nacamuli made eloquent speeches for the defence, but after deliberating the Court upheld the finding of the British Court of Inquest that Nacamuli was guilty of manslaughter, and he was sentenced to six months and twenty days' imprisonment and a fine of £100.

RUSSIAN NOTES.—The "Irkutsk Government Gazette" reports the discovery of beds of radium-bearing calcium salts near one of the stations of the newly opened Circumbaikal Railway.—The question of introducing a metric system into Russia is to be seriously considered by the Imperial Council soon.—At the last sitting of the Tiflis Town Sanitary Executive Committee, Dr. E. C. Baboff proposed that pharmacists should disinfect the prescriptions coming from places where infectious diseases are known to exist. As the disinfection of all prescriptions with formalin would take a long time, it was decided to ask all doctors to indicate on their prescriptions whether they had been written near infection, for the guidance of the pharmacists.—The V. K. Ferreira Co., of Moscow, has closed its books for 1903-4 with a net profit of 84,560r., which will yield a 5 per cent. dividend. The value of the pharmacy, laboratory, and machinery is set down at 350,000r., and stock at 811,000r.—The Russo-American Rubber Manufacturing Co., of St. Petersburg, has applied to the Minister of Finance for permission to increase its working capital from 6,000,000r. to 6,500,000r., in view of

the increase of its business, and this has been allowed. The business rose from 24,765,315r. in 1902 to 28,859,155r. in 1903. The "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" states that although the price of platinum is quoted at 14,500r. per poud, the actual price obtained for this metal by the mine-owners in the Ural District is considerably less. One large proprietor sells platinum at 11,351r. per poud; while another has recently entered into a contract with an American firm for the sale of the whole output of the Taghilsk mines for the next ten years at the rate of 10,000r. per poud, or about 29l. per lb.—The Nevski Chemical-works Co. has been declared bankrupt by the Commercial Tribunal. The failure in no way affects the manufacture of sulphuric and hydrochloric acids, for the production of which the only local factory is the Tentleff works of Messrs. Nobel, who are also erecting a new sulphuric-acid factory at Baku to work on the contact system.—The Russian Government has permitted the publication of a journal in the Polish language, to be called the "Droquist."

## American Notes.

(From our Correspondent.)

A HOSPITAL MISTAKE.—A fatal error was recently made by a young lady pharmacist employed in a hospital in the city of Rochester, N.Y. She filled a bottle labelled "Poland water" with carbolic acid, and this, when a tea-spoonful of it was given to a hospital patient, resulted in death. The pharmacist was so prostrated on learning of her error that it was impossible to hold the inquest.

A COSMOPOLITAN BANQUET.—The Commissioners of fifteen foreign countries at the St. Louis Exhibition visited the factory of the National Cash-register Co., Ltd., at Dayton, Ohio, and were entertained to a banquet at the Dayton Club on October 19. The company, who numbered nearly a hundred, were much impressed with the model factory, and said so in laudatory terms at the banquet.

BUSINESS RESUMED.—The great quadrennial election of a President is now over and the end of the period is characterised by the customary resumption of confidence in business and financial operations. The retailers and jobbers in the drug-trade all over the country report a gratifying trade and predict a constant increase certainly for the next few months. There was some talk after election that the tariff schedules would be tampered with, but this has all died down. It seems unlikely that the Republican party will make any tariff-changes.

PROFESSOR WILBUR L. SCOVILLE, known for many years as one of the prominent professors in the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, resigned some time ago to take a position with Jaynes & Co., a well-known corporation in Boston owning four or five retail pharmacies. It is now announced that Professor Scoville will have charge of the analytical and manufacturing departments, and will have several assistants under his supervision. Jaynes & Co. make many of their own goods, and are very particular to examine all the chemicals and other products which they buy.

YIELDING.—The wholesale druggists of New York City have never acted in compliance with the anti-cutting plans of the National Association of Retail Druggists. Great was the surprise, therefore, when they declared recently that they would sign the new contracts issued by the Peruna Drug Co. The latter company agreed at the recent St. Louis convention of the N.A.R.D. to market "Peruna" under the direct-contract and serial-numbering plan. The jobbers of the country have always been rather opposed to this plan for the reason that it means considerable additional clerical work for them in keeping track of the contracts and the serial numbers. The Miles Medical Co., who were the first to adopt the contract plan a couple of years ago, give the jobbers an additional 2 per cent. discount, and it is understood that the "Peruna" people will do likewise. Nevertheless, the jobbers are not particularly anxious to have the plan universally employed, and if it ever is so employed it will be because the retailers continue their aggressive demand for it.

## Legal Reports.

### Trade Law.

**Advertising Cyllin.**—In certain German papers during the past year Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., advertised that creolin sold by Mr. William Pearson was not of their manufacture, and that the fluid which they now make (cyllin) is four times the strength of that which they formerly sent to Germany as "creolin," while it is free from carbolic acid. Consequent on this statement Mr. Pearson took action against the company in the District Court of Hamburg in respect to unfair competition. The Court referred the matter to the Hygienic Institute of the city, the questions submitted being—

(a) Whether the defendants have succeeded, by means of experiments extending over many years, in quadrupling the bacteria-destroying properties of the fluid formerly supplied to Germany by the defendants under the name of "Creolin."

(b) Whether the composition used by the defendants is eleven times stronger than pure carbolic acid.

Dr. Kister, of the Institute, was deputed to examine a long series of specimens, and submitted to the Court a long report embodying tables showing the result of bacteriological experiments, by English and German methods, with cyllin, creolin, Jeyes' Perfect Purifier, Jeyes' fluid, and carbolic acid—typhus culture being used. He answered questions *a* and *b* in the affirmative. The District Judge and two commercial Judges have recently given their decision in the matter. They dismissed the plaintiff's claim, and ordered him to pay five-sixths of the costs of the action, the defendants being liable for the remaining sixth. In their grounds for the judgment the Judges rely upon Dr. Kister's report, which was in favour of the defendants, and they reject the plaintiff's allegation that defendants had added poisonous admixture to Cyllin. They declined the plaintiff's request that the Court should examine Mr. Dibdin, of London, in support of a statement by him opposed to Dr. Kister's, as that would only be a case of one opinion against another, while Mr. Dibdin's opinion also showed that Cyllin is considerably stronger than Creolin.

### High Court Cases.

#### Hæmatogen.

THE appeal by the plaintiff in the case of Hommel v. Gebrüder Bauer & Co. against the decision by Mr. Justice Warrington in respect to the hematogen trade-mark was heard by Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Romer, and Cozens-Hardy in the High Courts of Justice on November 24 and 25. This was an action to restrain the defendants from infringing the plaintiff's trade-mark and from passing off goods as and for the plaintiff's, to which the defendants responded by asking that the word "Hæmatogen" be expunged from the trade-marks register. His Lordship below decided for defendants (see *C. & D.*, June 18, 1904, page 955).

Mr. Henry Terrell, K.C., and Mr. Sebastian now appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Norton, K.C., and Mr. Francis Watt for the respondents.

Mr. Terrell recounted the facts in the case, and how Dr. Hommel had discovered, made, and put on the market his preparation of haemoglobin, first as "Dr. Hommel's hæmatogen," then very generally as "Hæmatogen." The plaintiff's case was that hematogen meant, and was understood to mean, plaintiff's preparation, and that the use of the name by the defendants without distinguishing their goods from the plaintiff's amounted to passing off and entitled the plaintiff to an injunction. The name was struck off the register because it had been used by a Mr. Bunge, an experimental chemist in Germany, who in 1885 extracted something from the yolk of eggs, the only quantity of which ever known to exist was half an ounce in a small bottle. His experiments with it were published in a scientific treatise in Germany, and got copied into scientific treatises in England, where the substance was described as "Bunge's hematogen," and the word therefore was not an invented word. It was, however, admitted, so far as this country is concerned, that it was not known as a commercial product, but only in scientific works as referring to experiments performed by Bunge. There was no evidence that any commercial product was ever sold in this country as hematogen except the plaintiff's product. Defendants' preparation was not the same as plaintiff's.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams pointed to the fact that plaintiff's article was sold as "Dr. Hommel's hæmatogen," which appeared to recognise that there were various preparations of hæmatogen, and that this was Dr. Hommel's preparation.

Mr. Terrell said that no other preparation of hæmatogen had been sold in this country. He pointed to the evidence of doctors who used the word to designate the plaintiff's article, whose ingredients and preparations they knew.

Lord Justice Romer pointed to the fact that the get-up of the two kinds was entirely different.

Mr. Terrell said that was immaterial. He admitted that if a person had been accustomed to purchase Dr. Hommel's hematogen he would at once see the distinction between it and the defendants', but it was not necessary for him to show that everybody would be deceived. All he had to show was that it was calculated to deceive some people.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, without calling on the respondents, gave judgment agreeing with the conclusion arrived at by Mr. Justice Warrington, that the evidence was not sufficient to establish that the word had acquired a secondary meaning exclusively attaching it to Dr. Hommel's preparation. He did not understand that plaintiff's counsel went the length of saying that immediately the plaintiff attached to his preparation this name it would be true to say that the word "hæmatogen" acquired a secondary meaning, because at that moment there was no other preparation on the market to which this word, which had a primary meaning—viz., blood-forming—had been applied. It would be impossible to maintain such a proposition. What they did maintain was that in course of time since 1893 this particular preparation had come to be well known and popular, and that gradually the word "hæmatogen" had come to be applied exclusively to the plaintiff's preparation, and that it would be misleading those who had to deal with chemical preparations of this sort if persons who made other preparations for the same purpose, but with a different analysis, were entitled to employ this name. It was a true summary of the medical evidence to say that the doctors sometimes called it "hæmatogen" and sometimes "Dr. Hommel's hematogen." He did not think that evidence was sufficient to establish that which one ought not to allow to be very easily established on slight evidence—that this word had acquired such a secondary meaning that in the trade it exclusively meant Dr. Hommel's preparation. There was a strong piece of evidence given really by the plaintiff himself. There was a note on one edge of his bottle—"Please note that, in order to meet the suggestions of members of the medical profession, we have altered and improved the taste of Dr. Hommel's hæmatogen." He did not venture to say "of hematogen." That was a most remarkable piece of evidence going to show that the word had not acquired such a secondary meaning. If it had, there would be no need to describe it as Dr. Hommel's. The evidence of the doctors led to the same conclusion. They were not confident that the description "hæmatogen" would result in the patient getting from the dispensing chemist that particular preparation which they intended. If the primary meaning of a word was a simple and easy one known to everyone, it was extremely difficult to establish that in any particular trade it had lost its well-known original meaning and acquired a secondary meaning, to the exclusion of the natural meaning of the word. The difficulty was not so hard to get over where the word was one whose meaning would not be known to everyone who came in contact with it. In this particular case the word was one of which there would be in the vernacular no user at all. It was limited to members of the medical and pharmaceutical professions, and under these circumstances it seemed to him to have a clear primary meaning, and he entirely agreed with Mr. Justice Warrington that on this evidence the primary meaning had not been excluded, and it had not acquired a secondary meaning.

Lords Justices Romer and Cozens-Hardy concurred, and the appeal was dismissed, with costs.

### Pharmacy Act, 1868.

#### SCOTCH CASES.

AT Paisley Sheriff Court on Monday, November 28. Sheriff Lyell on the bench, George Campbell, assistant in the shop

of Thomas McMaster, chemist and druggist, 16 Heggie Terrace, Scotstoun, was charged at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society with selling three poisons—namely, a quantity of opium as an ingredient in a quantity of laudanum or tincture of opium, a quantity of morphine, and a quantity of chloroform as ingredients in a bottle of cough-mixture—on September 29, he not being a registered chemist and druggist. Respondent pleaded guilty, and was fined 2*l.*, with 1*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* of expenses.

At Hamilton Sheriff Court on Thursday, December 1, proof was led before Sheriff Thomson regarding Mary Christian Edward, assistant in the drug-shop of Dr. Hugh Mackay, Cross Surgery, Main Street, Cambuslang, who was found guilty of having sold poisons in Rankin's ointment and red oxide of mercury, she being unqualified. Accused was fined 2*l.*, and 37*s.* 6*d.* costs, or twenty-one days' imprisonment. The Sheriff made severe strictures on an innocent person being made the victim, while the actual offender got off scot free.

Isabella Hislop Endie, assistant to Dr. Laird, Cambuslang, pleaded guilty to selling a box of Rankin's ointment. The Sheriff modified the penalty to 2*s.* 6*d.* and 37*s.* 6*d.* costs because accused refused to sell red oxide of mercury, and thus showed a desire to observe the law.

The cases of William Jack, Dr. Allison's assistant, and Alexander Grey, Dr. Macfarlane's assistant, both of Cambuslang, charged with selling Rankin's ointment and red oxide of mercury, were delayed until another case was disposed of, when each was fined 2*l.*, and 37*s.* 6*d.* costs.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

#### SALICYLIC ACID IN WINE.

At Crumlin, near Belfast, on November 28, David Mairs was summoned for having sold ginger-wine which contained 2.43 grains per pint of salicylic acid and 20 per cent. of proof spirit. The analyst added: "Salicylic acid is in my opinion a dangerous drug. It is absolutely unnecessary even as a preservative." Defendant applied for an adjournment on the ground that he had forwarded a sample to Somerset House and had not yet received a report. This was granted, Dr. Musson, J.P., remarking that he did not consider 2 grains of the salicylic acid to the pint very much.

#### OLIVE OIL.

At the North London Police Court on Tuesday, November 29, before Mr. E. S. Fordham, the Hackney Borough Council prosecuted Mr. Joseph Ensley, chemist and druggist, of Well Street, Hackney, for selling to the prejudice of the purchaser cottonseed oil for olive oil. The defence was that the manager explained that he was out of the best olive oil and informed the purchaser that he could supply the second quality for rubbing or lubricating; as to this point the prosecution did not agree. Mr. Kirby, who appeared for the defence, said that the manager might have been a little more explicit, but he did not want to lose a customer. Mr. Fordham: Like the man who goes to the chemist for a bottle of apenta water, and is advised to have a dose of salts because they have no apenta water in stock. (Laughter.) Mr. Kirby: Equally efficacious. I remember once going to a cutler for a knife, and he said, "This one is equally good; but remember it is not English steel." It is a little hard that chemists and grocers should be the only ones who are seized upon in this way. Mr. Fordham: It is a different thing as between olive oil and cottonseed oil, and foreign and English steel. The olive oil is used for salad for eating, and the cottonseed oil for lubricating. Mr. Kirby: The cottonseed oil is a vegetable oil, and is used for frying fish and is an element in margarine. Mr. Fordham: I suppose it is not equal to Elliman's emulsion? Mr. Kirby: I am not here to advertise patent medicines. But there is a technical objection I should like to take in this case. I am entitled to it, seeing that the purchaser has neither been misled or defrauded. This is not a correct copy of the certificate which is before the Court. It says "sample of olive," and omits to put the word "oil." The Act of Parliament says a copy of the certificate shall be served upon the defendant, and this is not a copy, because not perfect. Mr. Fordham overruled the objection, and found the charge proved, inflicting a fine of 40*s.*, and 12*s.* 6*d.* costs.

#### TINCTURE OF IODINE.

At Cranbrook Sessions on Thursday, December 1, Martha Haselar, chemist, Cranbrook, Kent, was charged with selling tincture of iodine deficient in iodine on November 1. Mr. Kirby, of Neve, Beck & Kirby, solicitors to the Chemists' Defence Association, defended. Four ounces of the tincture was purchased for 2*s.* 2*d.*, and the certificate of analysis showed a deficiency of 40 per cent. Mr. Kirby brought out that four other articles purchased at the same time were pure. Defendant has traded for thirty-three years. Samples had been taken during the past twelve years, and had always been pure. The tincture was made by defendant's manager, who did not participate in profits, and the deficiency would have saved less than 3*d.* in a pint. Mr. Kirby took a technical objection to the wording of the certificate of analysis, which stated there was a deficiency of free iodine, but did not clearly define all the components; also on grounds that the description of analysis on the copy of the certificate supplied to defendant did not correspond with the original. The case was dismissed on the grounds that the Bench was not satisfied as to whether the certificate was in the proper form, and whether a proper copy had been given to defendant.

### Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re Arthur Sydney Hanham*, late of 4 The Broadway, East Dulwich, Chemist.—The public examination of this debtor took place at the London Bankruptcy Court on Thursday, December 1, before Mr. Registrar Hope. Replying to Mr. Burgess, Assistant Receiver, the debtor stated that he started the business at East Dulwich in February, 1900, with a capital of 550*l.*, of which 250*l.* was a loan. Believing it was a good opening, he fitted up the shop at a cost of 160*l.* His expectations were not fulfilled, and in July last his stock, furniture, and effects were sold under a distraint for rent. The examination was concluded, the accounts showing debts 448*l.* and assets 16*l.*

*Re John Edmunds*, trading as "J. Edmunds' Drug-stores," 3 Tower Bridge Road, S.E., Chemist and Druggist.—The first meeting of creditors was held on November 23 at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. W. P. Bowyer, Assistant Receiver, who reported that a draft statement of affairs had been handed in showing unsecured debts 1,102*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*, partly secured debts 400*l.* (security valued at 185*l.*), and preferential claims 8*s.* 2*d.* The assets were valued at 245*l.*, and consisted of cash 15*l.*, stock 30*l.*, and fixtures, etc., 200*l.* It appeared that the debtor commenced business as a qualified chemist at Birmingham upwards of thirty years ago, but shortly afterwards sold that business and removed to London. After acting for two years as an assistant, the debtor restarted for himself at Lewisham. He traded in succession at several other places, and about ten years ago opened a shop at 33 High Street, Kingsland, where he traded until last April, when he sold it as a going concern for 800*l.* His liabilities at that time amounted to about 2,000*l.* He commenced negotiations for the Tower Bridge premises about the time he left the Kingsland shop, but, owing to delay in obtaining possession and fitting up the premises, he did not open them until July. The lease cost 80*l.*, and a further 100*l.* was expended in fitting and stocking the shop, but the debtor borrowed 100*l.* on the security of the lease, etc. He attributes his insolvency to falling-off of business through opposition and to loss of profits owing to severe competition. In the absence of any offer, the case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver to be wound up in the ordinary course of bankruptcy, debtor's public examination being fixed for December 15.

*Re Frank Herbert Exon*, lately carrying on business at Pier Avenue, Clacton-on-Sea, Chemist and Druggist.—Debtor came before the Colchester Bankruptcy Court on November 25 for his public examination. His statement of affairs showed gross liabilities amounting to 838*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*, of which 778*l.* was expected to rank for dividend. The thirty unsecured creditors included debtor's mother for money lent 500*l.* The deficiency was estimated by debtor to be 656*l.* Debtor stated that early in 1899 he rode pretty nearly all over England in search of a likely spot to start in business, and at last decided on Clacton. At that time there were only two other chemists' businesses in the place. He had then 400*l.* capital—most of it being a gift from his mother—and he took an unfinished shop and house in Pier Avenue at 72*l.* a year rental. That was in May, and as he hoped to open in June to catch the season he paid in advance a firm of London shopfitters to complete the place, but, the debtor alleged, they did another shop first, and were paid by some rival

business to keep his work back. The result was the opening was delayed till October, and in this way he lost 100*l.* There were only two good business months and two fairly good months in Clacton—the rest of the year better trade could be done in any village in England. He had frequently made out a balance-sheet, and realised that, trading on borrowed capital as he did, he was insolvent from the outset. His mother had practically kept his wife and family during the past four years, and she might have put in proofs for 1,000*l.* He had bought no clothes for his wife and family since marriage, and his mother had even given his wife all the furniture they possessed. Questioned as to debts recently incurred, debtor admitted that though he was insolvent from the start, he had this year contracted debts with Messrs. Sanger & Sons, Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., and Messrs. Butcher & Son—in all 59*l.*; the local creditors he had managed to pay off. He had no intention of filing his petition till the landlord distrained for two quarters' rent. Then in the forced sale nearly 500*l.* worth of stock sold for 52*l.* 10*s.*, and 200*l.* worth of mahogany and plate-glass fittings went for 11*l.* He suggested that the sale was improperly managed, and that a much better result would have accrued had it been advertised in the trade journals instead of in local papers. In addition to the 100*l.* lost in consequence of the delay on the part of the shopfitters, he had lost 60*l.* over a daughter's illness. The examination was adjourned till December 30, and it was understood that, subject to the signing of the notes and the filing of a more detailed deficiency account in the meantime, debtor need not attend, as he stated that he was about to get employment in Birmingham.

## New Companies & Company News.

**SOUTH LONDON TOOTH CO., LTD.**—Capital 100*l.*, in 5*s.* shares. Objects: to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in dentists' requisites, dentists, dental mechanics, extractors, stoppers, and sealers of natural teeth, manufacturers of artificial teeth, etc. The first subscribers are: E. G. Thatcher, 35 Hutton Road, Kennington Cross, S.E., dental assistant; J. Cousins, secretary; A. B. King, electrical engineer; Mrs. B. B. King; Mrs. A. Brown; Miss E. A. Banley; and J. Marks, dental assistant. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association.

**GREAVES DRUG-STORES CO., LTD.**—Capital 3,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and take over as a going concern the business of a chemist and druggist carried on at Cardiff, by Mary Greaves, as administratrix of J. Greaves (deceased), as "Greaves Drug-stores," to acquire the leasehold premises known as 157 Cowbridge Road, Canton, Cardiff, to adopt an agreement between Mary Greaves and E. H. Davies, and to carry on the business of wholesale or retail chemists, druggists, dentists, opticians, etc. The first subscribers are: Mrs. M. Greaves; Miss E. J. Davies; R. G. Kyte, engineer; R. H. Greaves, student; E. H. Davies, contractor; J. B. Ewen, chemist; and H. R. Kyte, engineer—all of Cardiff. Minimum cash subscription, 500 shares. The first directors are R. G. Kyte and E. H. Davies, who may appoint one other. Qualification 20*l.*; remuneration 10*s.* 6*d.* per board meeting attended. Registered office, 57 St. Mary Street, Cardiff.

**E. YOULDON, LTD.**—Capital 6,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at the East London Glass-bottle Works, Carter Street, Mile End, E., by F. Youldon, as "E. Youldon," to adopt an agreement with the said vendor, and to carry on the business of glass-bottle and glass manufacturers and merchants, druggists' sundriesmen, manufacturers of and dealers in anatomical, orthopaedic, surgical, electrical, optical, photographic, mathematical, and scientific apparatus, etc. The first subscribers are: F. Youldon, glass-bottle manufacturer; Mrs. R. Youldon; H. Stanton, clerk; J. Mason, engineer; W. H. Bonallaek, van-builder; H. Clegg, boot-manufacturer; and H. J. Clegg, boot-manufacturer. No initial public issue. F. Youldon is the permanent managing director. Qualification 50*l.*; remuneration of managing director 300*l.* per annum and 20 per cent. of the surplus profits after 10 per cent. dividend has been paid. Registered office, East London glassworks, Carter Street, Mile End, E.

**STEPHEN SMITH & CO., LTD.**—A dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares in this company has been declared for the half-year ended September 30, which is 1 per cent. more than was declared for the same period last year.

**A. & R. THWAITES & CO., LTD.**—The report for the year ended September 30, to be submitted at the meeting on December 7, at Dublin, states that the net profit for the year amounts to 7,152*l.*, which, with the balance of 1,175*l.* brought

from last account, makes 8,327*l.* Deducting interest on debentures, depreciation of plant, etc., income-tax, and interim dividend for the half-year ended March 31, 1904, there remains a sum of 5,539*l.* available for distribution. The directors propose to pay a dividend at the rate of 13 per cent., together with a bonus of 1*s.* per share on the ordinary shares for the final six months, to place 1,000*l.* to the reserve fund, and to carry forward 1,289*l.*

**BOOTS, CASH CHEMISTS (EASTERN), LTD.**—A meeting of the shareholders was held at 29 Farringdon Road, E.C., on November 30. Mr. Jesse Boot presided, and commented upon the directors' report and financial statement, to which we referred fully last week. He stated that the company have opened at Ipswich, in the very best position, new premises in which there are several fresh departments, and other places are ripe for similar developments. Since the accounts closed the company have purchased freehold premises in Lister Gate, Nottingham, and in Scarborough, the latter being the premises occupied by one of the local banks, which the company are to use for good-class retail trade. Two Sheffield shop-fits are also being rebuilt. In future the company's accounts are to be made up to March 31 and presented in June. Alderman Batty Langley, M.P., supported the motion for the adoption of the report, which was carried. On the motion of Alderman Sands, seconded by Mr. Vincent Wood, the auditors were reappointed and Mr. Jesse Boot was thanked for the enormous amount of work he had accomplished in the company's interest, while a special vote of thanks was accorded to Mrs. Boot for her valuable assistance in the business.

**LEWIS & BURROWS, LTD.**—The tenth ordinary general meeting of this company was held on November 25, at Winchester House, E.C., Mr. J. E. Brough (chairman of directors) presiding. In moving the adoption of the report and accounts the Chairman explained that the decline in the net profit (2,473*l.*, as against 3,880*l.* last year) was due to a number of causes, but principally to the trade depression. The directors, with the object of improving business, experimented with articles not previously dealt in by the company. An experiment was made in one of the West-end shops with a very high-class French chocolate, but there was not sufficient demand to warrant an extension of the experiment. A loan exhibition of very attractive silver goods was tried in another establishment; the response in that case was likewise too small to warrant a continuance, but the goods being on loan no liability was incurred. Now the sale of general fancy articles is being tried at various branches. Mr. J. K. Matterson seconded the motion. Mr. J. E. Griffiths moved as an amendment the adjournment of the meeting in order that the shareholders might be presented with a fuller statement of the position. He expressed the opinion that the company had indulged in too much "cutting," and that prices had been fixed on a basis which showed no consideration for the shareholders. Mr. Hemsley seconded the amendment, and Mr. White supported it. Mr. Warnford-Davis, chairman of Parke's Drug-stores, Ltd., opposed the amendment. His own company, he said, were opponents of Lewis & Burrows, and wished that company out of existence—but that did not prevent him from supporting the board in the struggle they had had. During the last few years Messrs. Boots had become keen competitors in London; but if the shareholders wished the board to copy their example they must be prepared to give the board 100,000*l.* to 150,000*l.* more capital. Mr. Badman suggested the appointment of an advisory committee, and Mr. Campbell, as a small chemist, complained of the company's system of cutting prices. Mr. W. B. Trick (a director) denied suggestion of leakage at the branches or in the management. In the result the report was adopted with five dissentients.

**COPPER SULPHATE IN RICE-CULTIVATION.**—Dr. Rodolfo Farineti, of the Royal Botanical Institute of Pavia, has been investigating the disease that has this year again attacked the rice-crops in Italy, and has just published a preliminary note on the subject. He finds that all the so-called different diseases are really only varieties of the same malady, which is entirely due to the action of a cryptogam, and is identical or similar to the parasite that causes so much mischief in the vineyards; that climatic and local conditions have little or no effect; and that the crops in Japan are attacked in exactly the same manner. He suggests careful selection and preparation of the seed, and also various methods of combating the disease when it develops, among the latter being flooding with water till all the parts attacked are submerged, for the prolonged action of water will completely arrest the disease; also the periodical mowing down of all herbage along the margins of the rice-fields; and the spraying of the crops with a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -per-cent. solution of sulphate of copper, or with even weaker solutions, this spraying to be done at least twice at certain stages of the growth of the plant.

## Festivities.

### The President at Tunbridge Wells.

As briefly announced in the *C. & D.* last week, the annual dinner of the Tunbridge Wells Chemists' Association was held on November 23. Mr. A. E. Hobbs, President of the Association, proposed the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain." He



As briefly announced in the *C. & D.* last week, the annual dinner of the Tunbridge Wells Chemists' Association was held on November 23. Mr. A. E. Hobbs, President of the Association, proposed the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain." He said that those who entered the School of Pharmacy at Bloomsbury Square sometimes thought it strange to be told that the school was not established to enable them to pass the examinations of the Society but rather to qualify students for the duties of their high calling in after-life. It would be the beginning of a new era if every student of pharmacy and candidate for examination would look upon the preparation for the examination as the foundation only of a life's work, and not the completed structure itself. Mr. Hobbs then proceeded to refer to the relations of the Society with the Divisional Secretaries, and suggested that more might be done in giving explicit instructions as to how the Secretaries should act on certain political matters, and also in aiding them in correctly interpreting the Council's policy.

#### PRESENT POSITION OF PHARMACY.

Mr. R. A. Robinson (President of the Pharmaceutical Society) replied. He said it is a good sign that although the country is passing through times which are very troublous, and occasionally critical, those men who are best educated and best fitted to carry on pharmacy in the higher branches are by no means despondent as to the future of pharmacy. Mr. Robinson then referred to the injustice of the present interpretation of the Pharmacy Act and said he was glad to be able to tell them that a prominent permanent official of the Government had told him that the decision of the House of Lords was a curious one. What he (the Government official) meant was that it was all silly nonsense, but he did not put it that way. (Laughter.) The Pharmaceutical Society are trying to get the position amended, but it is difficult to say whether or not they will be successful. He had hopes that they would succeed, for the Society's view was a perfectly reasonable one. Mr. Crooks, M.P., told him only the previous day, "I am with you entirely: every man to his own business or trade." It was an encouragement to have such a remark from a man who looked at the question from a common-sense point of view and was not imbued or impressed with any legal considerations. It was Mr. Crooks's view that it is eminently right and fair that no one should engage in a business unless personally qualified. He (the speaker) was bound to add that this is not the view of the Government. The Government hold that they could not possibly get a Bill through the House of Commons requiring that no company may sell poisons unless all the directors or shareholders are qualified. The Government thought it sufficient that the manager or assistant should be qualified. Chemists could not hope to carry a Bill through Parliament as a private measure without the help of the Government. Therefore he (the speaker) had taken up the attitude and was prepared to say to the Government, "If you will not give us all we think is right and just, and what we ought to have, what do you propose as an alternative?" (Hear, hear.) He thought that was an eminently common-sense view to take of the situation, and he hoped his friends in that district would not feel they were being betrayed by the policy of trying to find out from the Government what they would give. (Hear, hear.) After all, chemists must remember that pharmacy is a matter of secondary interest in the Government programme. It is a fact that the Minister of Agriculture wants an amendment of the law as regards the sale of poisons for agricultural and horticultural purposes, but whether he will press his view next session it is impossible to say. Mr. Robinson

proceeded to deal with the other provisions of the Pharmacy Bill and then passed on to a consideration of the "Compendium." Regarding the latter he said there is absolutely nothing that calls for concealment. It is hoped to produce a book of standard reference for the dispensing chemist and the medical man. The book, which is to be produced in about twelve months, is not meant to be a rival of the Pharmacopoeia or to compete with the useful handbooks produced by private effort. The speech finished with references to organisation and the titles question, and produced rounds of applause from those present.

The other toasts were "The Borough of Tunbridge Wells," proposed by Mr. E. Dunkley and responded to by the Mayor, Alderman H. Thorpe; "Kindred Associations and Visitors," proposed by Mr. H. S. Pearmund and responded to by Mr. John Smith (St. Leonards), Mr. Stooke (New Brompton), and Mr. R. Woodgate; and "Local Associations," proposed by Mr. W. H. Gibson (Brighton) and responded to by Mr. S. V. Booth.

### The Twenty-sixth.

On Saturday evening, November 26, the staff of Messrs. Jas. Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd., Manchester, held their twenty-sixth annual dinner at the Albion Hotel, Piccadilly. The directorate was represented by Mr. George S. Woolley (managing director) and Mr. C. A. Johnstone, and in spite of the most inclement weather there was a very fair attendance. An enjoyable smoking-concert followed the dinner, among the artistes being Mr. Libbis N. Burch (the popular Manchester baritone) and Mr. George Crews (entertainer).

### Derby Chemists' Association.

The annual dinner was held at the Derwent Hotel, Derby, on Wednesday evening, November 23. The President (Mr. C. D. Hart) occupied the chair, and about twenty members sat down to dinner. After the usual loyal toasts, Mr. Dawson gave "Success to the Derby and Derbyshire Chemists' Association." In the course of his remarks Mr. Dawson referred to the possible service that the Shop-hours Act, 1904, if adopted by the borough, might be to chemists. He also suggested the formation of a committee to work, in connection with the Derby Chamber of Trade, in promoting the interests of chemists. The toast of "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. Haynes, was responded to by Mr. Crossby (Messrs. Oldfield, Pattinson & Co.). "The health of the President," proposed by Mr. Pattison, was drunk with musical honours, and in acknowledging this Mr. Hart alluded to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Cope and other friends. The musical programme was entrusted to Mr. Daykin Turner, and he, with several well-known local artists, enlivened the gathering with numerous songs. The company broke up at twelve o'clock, after a very pleasant and successful reunion.

### Liverpool Chemists' Association.

The annual hot pot supper and smoking-concert of this Association was held on Thursday, November 24, at the Hôtel St. George. There was a splendid attendance, about ninety members and friends being present. The Chairman was Mr. A. S. Buck, Vice-President, Mr. R. C. Cowley being unfortunately unable to be present as he was suffering from a severe cold and unable to leave his room. Among those present were Drs. Symes, O'Leary, and Johnson, Messrs. T. F. Abraham, Wyatt, Marsden, H. Kemp, J. Hamnett, H. O. Dutton, Alexander, MacAlley, Tallantyre, Martin, and Casartelli. An excellent supper was provided, and, after the loyal toasts had been given, the Chairman intimated that there would not be any speeches. An excellent musical programme was then entered upon, and various songs were well rendered by the following gentlemen: Messrs. F. Allen, R. S. W. Allen, Janion, A. McCormick, W. Sharp, A. Jones, Hicks, sen., Hicks, jun., Fresier, and Garnett. Mr. H. Kennison was an efficient accompanist, and a couple of recitations by Mr. F. E. Lloyd were well received. At the conclusion of the concert the Secretary (Mr. J. Shacklady) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the artistes who had helped to make the "smoker" such a success, and also to Messrs. J. Jones, Alexander, and Stopforth, who had given him valuable assistance in getting up the concert. "Auld Lang Syne" brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

### The President at Nottingham.

The thirty-sixth annual dinner of the Nottingham Chemists' Association was held on November 24 at the Victoria Station Hotel, Nottingham, the President of the Association (Mr. R. Fitzhugh) occupying the chair. There was a large attendance, the company including the Mayor of Nottingham (Alderman J. Bright), the President of the Pharmaceutical Society (Mr. R. A. Robinson), the ex-Mayor of Nottingham (Councillor A. Page), Councillor J. T. Spalding, Councillor J. Johnstone, Major W. H. Blackburn, the Chief Constable of Nottingham (Mr. P. S. Clay), Mr. A. Middleton, and Mr. W. Gill.

The President of the Pharmaceutical Society, replying to the toast of "Success to the Society," given from the chair, referred at some length to the political problems that are at present engaging the attention of pharmacists—the limited-company evil and the Pharmacy Bill. The toast of "The Mayor, Magistrates, and Corporation of Nottingham" was proposed by Mr. C. A. Bolton, and in replying the Mayor expressed the opinion that the local University College might be used with advantage in the qualification of future pharmacists. He did not know what course of training is now necessary in order to pass the examinations of the Society, but he looked forward to the time when the work of the University College would be very largely extended—to the time when Nottingham would have a degree-conferring university. It would be for the benefit of the trade and for the benefit of the city if the Council of the College could confer with the Pharmaceutical Society and arrange to hold examinations identical to those held in London. The Deputy-Mayor and Mr. J. T. Spalding also responded to the toast. Mr. A. Eberlin (Vice-President), replying to the toast of "The Nottingham Chemists' Association," given by Dr. C. H. Cattle, supported the suggestion that the authorities should approach the authorities of the University College with a view to the conduct of classes in pharmacy in order that a proper training might be given to the youths of the city desirous of becoming chemists. Mr. A. Middleton, the Treasurer, also replied. The other toasts were "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. A. Beilby and responded to by Councillor Johnstone and Mr. P. S. Clay; and "The Chairman," given by Mr. Robinson and replied to by Mr. Fitzhugh.

### Sheffield Pharmaceutical Society.

The annual dinner of the members was held on Wednesday, November 30, at the Royal Victoria Hotel, the President (Councillor A. Russell Fox, F.L.S.) being in the chair. He was supported by most of the members of the Association. After the loyal toasts, Mr. J. Gilbert Jackson



COUNCILLOR FOX.

proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain," which was acknowledged by Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, who, as one who had for many years taken the deepest interest in the Society, said he felt very keenly the lack of interest in the Society. He mentioned that without greater support the Society could not go with full force to the Privy Council or to Parliament. He touched upon organisation, and maintained that his scheme of divisional secretaries is all right and efficient if interest is put in it; and if each divisional secretary were to do what he could for the Society, there would be no call for such an organising secretary as Mr. Lord Gifford proposes. Mr. Newsholme also spoke about the Pharmacy Bill and Mr. Batty Langley's speech at the last annual dinner. He said if they went to the House of Commons with a Bill, they were not likely to get all they wanted. If, when their Bill was introduced anyone on the floor of the House of Commons would make another proposal which would answer their purpose, he was willing to accept it, but not otherwise. The President proposed the toast of "The Guests," coupling with it the

name of Mr. H. Linley Howden (Mappin & Webb), who, in his reply, hoped the Society would long flourish.

Mr. Newsholme at this point introduced a matter which was not on the programme. He referred to the great success which had attended the visit of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, which success had been largely due to the work of their Hon. Secretary, Mr. Antcliffe. (Hear, hear.) The Executive Committee had worked hard and harmoniously, but the success of all such organisations depended almost entirely upon the secretary. Mr. Antcliffe was an indomitable worker. They had been, at the close of the Conference, in the happy position of having a substantial balance in hand, and had made grants to the Sheffield University and the Pharmaceutical Benevolent Fund. They would all agree that they were doing the right thing in asking Mr. Antcliffe's acceptance of a small cheque as a token of their appreciation of his work. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Antcliffe, in replying, deprecated the implication that the success of the visit of the Conference was due to his efforts, and thanked the members for their gift, with which he had purchased a cabinet.

Dr. Scurfield, M.O.H., then submitted the toast of "The Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society," referring to the relations between medicine and pharmacy. Both professions, he said, appear to be suffering from the same grievance—the competition from unqualified persons. He considered it only right for the protection of the public that the dealing in drugs should be put in the hands of properly trained men. Mr. Percy Carr acknowledged the toast. The President's health was heartily drunk, on the proposal of Mr. Squire. The evening's entertainment was agreeably diversified by selections from the Aeolian Glee-singers and Mr. J. Lodge (humorist), Miss Lilian Biggin being the accompanist.

### Chemists' Assistants' Dance.

The first Cinderella of the season of the Chemists' Assistants' Association was held at Dorset Hall, Portman Rooms, on November 30. There were about 110 people present, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Much credit is due to Mr. A. R. Arrowsmith (Apollinaris Co.), Mr. A. H. Solomon, and Mr. C. W. Martin, who acted as M.C.'s and did much to make the evening a success. The President of the C.A.A. (Mr. R. Lownsborough) and Mr. A. B. Britton were present. Dancing commenced promptly at 7.30 p.m. and continued with much energy until 11.45 p.m. The next dance will take place early in February.

### The Plymouth Dinner.

The annual dinner of the Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse Chemists' Association was held on November 30, Mr. F. A. Goodman presiding. Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were read from the President, the Vice-President, and the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society. The toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society" was proposed by Mr. C. F. Weary, who said the Society are the only organisation in touch with the Government, and the only one that can be of use to chemists in obtaining their just demands, and what he (the speaker) thought was their due. Mr. C. J. Park, in responding, said pharmaceutical politics has arrived at a critical stage. In the ensuing session of Parliament they would have legislation, and to a great extent their future would depend on that legislation. Other toasts followed.

**NEW YORK DRUG CLUB.**—We have a Drug Club in London, a rather select body of wholesalers, with definite objects but no fixed abode. It is commercial rather than social. The New York Drug Club is almost the opposite, and most drugmen of the City find their way to its rooms, 100 William Street, for luncheon on business-days. It is now to enlarge its borders by changing the name to "The Drug and Chemical Club," which proposal is to be considered next Wednesday, and Mr. Jesse L. Hopkins, the President, states that the Board of Governors are looking to the future. One year from next May the Woodbridge Co. expect to erect a sixteen-storey building in the rear of the present club, and it is intended that the two topmost storeys shall be built and equipped expressly for the club. The appointments will be handsomer than those of the present quarters.

## Business Changes.

BUTE'S DRUG-STORES are about to be opened at 587 Commercial Road, E.

RANDALL'S DRUG-STORES are about to be opened at 177 Plashet Road, Upton Park, E.

NEW premises in Pelham Street, Nottingham, have been opened by Boots, Cash Chemists, Ltd.

THE business of Mr. F. G. Deacon, chemist and druggist, of Victoria Road, Southsea, has been acquired by Messrs. J. Bell & Co., of Hastings.

MESSRS. BEWELL & Co., store chemists, 19 and 21 Pitfield Street, have acquired the business of Mr. G. K. Glossop, 65 New North Road, Hoxton, N.

MR. W. G. WEDDLE has acquired the business at 139 Kingsley Road, Liverpool, formerly carried on by Mr. James Jones, chemist and druggist.

MR. PERCY C. G. STILES, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business at 1 The Square, Market Harborough, until lately carried on by Mr. J. T. Griffin, chemist and druggist.

THE business of Mr. E. Youldon, East London Glass-bottle Works, Carter Street, has been transferred to E. Youldon, Ltd., with Mr. Frank Youldon as managing director.

THE shop in the handsome new stone building, 110 New Bond Street, W., at the corner of Brook Street, has, we understand, been secured for a pharmacy. It is to be fitted in artistic style consistent with this most famous and elegant of English fashionable centres, and the nature of the business will be dispensing and retail.

MR. A. ATKINSON, pharmaceutical chemist, 2 Parliament Street, Harrogate, informs us that he has no connection whatever with Taylor's Drug Co., and his business at that address is not a branch of the company's. We may explain that in the "Bradford Observer" Taylor's Drug Co. Ltd., advertise a new branch at the address given.

THE business of the late Mr. J. Munday, chemist and druggist, of Fore Street, Tiverton, has been purchased by Mr. H. E. Hatt, chemist and druggist. Mr. Hatt has had experience in London and the provinces as well as on the Continent, and the business that he is taking over is an old-established one, Mr. Munday's predecessor having been Mr. G. F. Tuck.

## Personalities.

MR. J. DAWES-WHITE, chemist, 174 Kingsland Road, N.E., has been elected a member of the Shoreditch Board of Guardians.

MR. F. HARWOOD LESCHER, F.C.S., who has been on a six-weeks' trip to Canada and the United States, returned to London this week.

MR. G. PEARSON, chemist and druggist, formerly of Brierley Hill, Birmingham, and now residing in retirement in Torquay, has been elected an alderman of Torquay.

MR. A. BARTON KENT (G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd.) on Monday gave a lantern-lecture at the Free Library, Bethnal Green, his subject being "Here, There, and Everywhere," based on photos taken by himself in course of his travels.

MR. VERNON AND LADY MARGARET WATNEY's house party at Cornbury last week for the first shoot included, among others, Sir Redvers and Lady Audrey Buller, Sir Edward and Lady Grey, Mr. Sydney Buxton, M.P., and Mr. G. Claridge Druce.

MR. JOHN HUMPHREY, joint author of "Pharmacopædia," has written a new work on the *materia medica* of the British Pharmacopædia with an introduction by Mr. E. M. Holmes, F.L.S., which is to be published by Mr. Henry Kimpton.

MR. FREDERICK ROGERSON, youngest son of Mr. W. J. Rogerson, director of Hearon, Squire & Francis, Ltd., has during the past two months passed the London University M.B., B.S. with honours, and has also obtained the M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P.L.

COUNCILLOR JOHN TAYLOR, chemist, Lucius Street, Torquay, upon the completion of his two years' mayoralty of the

borough, has been presented by his colleagues upon the Council and the borough officials with a solid silver tea-and-coffee service weighing 65 oz. The style is Georgian, and each article is stamped with Mr. Taylor's crest and motto. Accompanying the gift was an illuminated address.

DR. M. O. FORSTER, of the Royal College of Science, contributes to this month's "International Book Circular" an interesting sketch entitled "Some Contemporary Foreign Chemists," which makes a good introduction to a list of their works. It is accompanied by portraits of twenty Continental chemists. The "Circular" is published by Messrs. Williams & Norgate, 14 Henrietta Street, W.C., at 6d.

MRS. FRED REYNOLDS's latest book is entitled "The Book of Angelus Drayton"; it is scarcely a novel, and differs greatly from her previous works—indeed, shows a remarkable advance upon them both in thought and style. It is the record of the life and thoughts of the son of a gentleman and scholar, who is proceeding to Cambridge, but for love of his mother gives up his University career. In his work on a farm he tragically loses an arm, and becomes a country postman. In this capacity he moralizes on all that he sees, hears, and feels in his country walks. It is well and beautifully done; a trifle sad at the finish, but whose life is not? and Mrs. Reynolds shows new powers in this effort. Those who have read "The Roadmender" will find a fitting companion to it in "Angelus Drayton," which is published at 6s. by Mr. John Long, 13 and 14 Norris Street, Haymarket, London.

COLONEL T. DAVIES SEWELL, to whom a presentation was made last week (*C. & D.*, November 26, page 878), is not only of particular interest to chemist-opticians, but is an interesting personage, from his long connection with City life. We therefore make no apology for giving his portrait in these pages.

Colonel Sewell was educated at the City of London School, which was then situated in Milk Street, and on leaving school in 1845 obtained an appointment in the Chamberlain's department at the City of London Guildhall, and thus kept up the connection which his family had had for two generations. Colonel Sewell was for some years Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court, and on occasion the Chamberlain's deputy. It was as deputy of the Chamberlain (his uncle) that Colonel Sewell officiated at the ceremony of presenting the Freedom to the Prince of Wales (now Edward VII.) in 1863. Two years ago Colonel Sewell retired from his position at the Guildhall. His work as Clerk of the Spectacle-makers' Company was described last week, but he is also Clerk of the Loriners' Company, and connected with the Shipwrights', the Pattenmakers', the Gardeners', the Paviors', the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers', the Fanmakers', and the Grocers' Companies. Colonel Sewell was the first Volunteer enlisted in the London Rifle Brigade in 1859, but his title of Colonel comes from his connection with the Royal London Militia. Colonel Sewell is a prominent Freemason, and takes an active interest in the city and parish matters of Westminster. Some years ago he was admitted to the Fellowship of the Royal Astronomical Society in recognition of his share in the certification scheme of the Spectacle-makers' Company.



## German Spirit-industry.

THE German Chambers of Commerce of Nordhausen and Hanau, whose districts are especially interested in the spirit-industry, have appealed to the Federal Council requesting that regulations may be issued permitting the distillation of spirit from maize, in order to prevent the threatened scarcity and further increases in the price of spirit and potatoes. In urging this petition the Chambers state that even though the spirit-production since October 1, 1903, is normal, the stocks of spirit on October 1, 1904, were lower by 40,000 hectolitres than the stocks at the same period of 1903. The petition also states that as the position is at present, it will require the best efforts of all distilleries to produce sufficient spirit for the demand in 1904-5. This will only be possible by exercising the greatest economy with potatoes. They are convinced that difficult times are ahead, and that a period of scarcity may be expected in the spring. In order to realise the consequences of this development, it is only necessary to point out the increase in price of methylated spirit, which has advanced by 10m. per hectolitre since last year. The use of spirit for lighting, heating, and technical purposes, which for several years has increased in consumption by 100,000 hectolitres per annum, will also be greatly hampered, says the petition. After referring to the disadvantages the chemical and varnish industries will suffer by the use of dear spirit, the petition points out that the lower classes, who are the largest consumers, will have to pay 40pf. instead of 25pf. per litre. As regards consumption for drinking-purposes, this takes up almost two-thirds of the entire yearly production of those who are engaged in the brandy-trade. The larger and richer distilleries will probably be able to weather the periods of unfavourable prices, but the smaller works will be placed in a most difficult position if the prices of brandy advance further. At present they are higher than they have ever been.

The "Frankfurter Zeitung," in commenting on the petition, says that the request deserves the full attention of the Legislature, as it deals with a case of necessity, the Legislature being also to blame for the present position; the regulations regarding spirit-taxation having always been the playground for all kinds of experiments. The present Secretary of the Treasury, Count Posadowsky, issued regulations in 1902 which were entirely in accordance with the wishes of the Spirit Ring. In these regulations it is not the taxation but the regulation of the production which requires remedying. When the last regulations in 1902 were issued, the spirit-industry suffered from over-production, and naturally the Spirit Ring fitted the law to the immediate position. All warnings that it might some day be otherwise were disregarded, and no one thought it necessary to provide a safety-valve for a time of spirit-scarcity. In 1899 the Spirit Ring was founded. The production, which ten years previously amounted to an average of 306.9 million litres, rose to 382.3 million litres in 1898-99, to 365.5 million in 1899-1900, to 406 millions in 1900-1, and 424.4 millions in 1901-2. On the basis of these regulations, the Spirit Ring ordained an artificial control of the production, and this has eventually brought about the present scarcity.

The "Berliner Tageblatt" reports that movements are on foot to amalgamate the Bank für Spirit-und Produkten-handel, Berlin, and the Posen Spirit Co., who own works in Posen and Magdeburg. It is intended to bring about greater economies in the management of the business. The contracts of the Centrale with the spirit-manufacturers and the agricultural distillers expire in 1908, and the Spirit Ring evidently hopes by means of closer union to be able to oppose more effectually any immoderate demands on the part of the distillers. The two companies in question have already stood in close relations with each other, and the director of the Centrale, Mr. Stern, and the rentier, Mr. Gutman, belong to the directorate of both companies.

AN AGREEMENT has been signed by the five largest Italian spirit-works, whereby the Milan Societa Italiana degli Alcool will absorb the remaining works; the capital of the company will be increased from 4,000,000 lire to 10,000,000 lire for the purpose.

## Deaths.

CAUDERY.—On November 26, at 43 Portland Place, W., the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. William Caudery, late of 1 Fenchurch Avenue, E.C. In Mr. Caudery an interesting personality has passed away. He was the founder of the business of William Caudery & Co., chemical merchants and brokers, and was within a few days of completing his ninetieth year. He was therefore one of the oldest members (if not the oldest) of the chemical-trade in London. After serving a seven-years' apprenticeship with a firm in Mildred Court, which is now extinct, Mr. Caudery commenced business on his own account as a chemical broker and merchant about 1847, and was practically the first London broker to develop a business in alkali, iodine, saltpetre, oils, chemical manures, and so on. At that period profits in the chemical-trade were considerably larger than they are now, and with the growth of the business, which was chiefly export, came prosperity. During later years, by the selection of capable business-men as associates and partners, he was enabled to cease active work, and practically retired from business fifteen years ago, although he continued in daily attendance at the office until eighteen months since. Mr. Caudery was almost unknown to the present generation of the drug-trade, and there are few of his contemporaries now left. Among them may be mentioned Mr. W. G. Blagden, Mr. D. Greenough, Mr. Thomas Tyrer, and a few of the older druggists. The funeral took place at Abney Park Cemetery on November 29.

CLARK.—At Park House, Ripley, on November 15, Mr. Albert Massey Clark, chemist and druggist, aged thirty-two.

HENRY.—On November 24, of apoplexy, Mr. Samuel R. Henry, pharmaceutical chemist, The Diamond, Monaghan. Mr. Henry was a comparatively young man (registered in 1889), but had built up a lucrative trade in the town, where he was much liked. He took great interest in local amusements.

HUNTER.—At West Cornforth, on November 27, Mr. Harry Hunter, chemist and druggist, of High Street, aged sixty-eight. Mr. Hunter had carried on business at West Cornforth for thirty-three years, and he died from pleurisy and heart-failure caused by a chill.

HUNTER.—Mr. George Hunter, chemist, of 160 Walton Breck Road, Liverpool, was picked up on November 27, in Vienna Street, Liverpool, close to his residence, bleeding from a wound in the head and unconscious. He was removed to the Stanley Hospital, but died almost immediately after admission from concussion of the brain. Mr. Hunter, who was fifty years of age, was well known in Liverpool and district, and his death has come as a great shock to a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

ILLINGWORTH.—At his dispensary, Main Street, Rutherford, suddenly, on November 19, Mr. George Skeen Illingworth, M.B., chemist and druggist, aged forty-six.

INNES.—At Richmond Place, Port Gordon, N.B., on November 25, Mr. William Rome Innes, chemist and druggist, Lossiemouth and Port Gordon, aged thirty.

KNOWLES.—The death occurred somewhat unexpectedly, on November 28, of Mr. Albert H. Knowles, of Cleckheaton, a member of the firm of H. W. Knowles & Co., Ltd., chemists and druggists. The business with which Mr. Knowles was connected is one of the oldest in the district. It was formerly for many years carried on by his deceased father.

THOMSON.—At Tetbury, on November 21, Mr. Alexander L. Thomson, chemist and druggist, aged fifty-six.

WOOD.—In London, on November 27, Mr. Frederick Wood, only brother of Mr. Vincent Wood, of Victoria House, Blackfriars Bridge, S.E., aged fifty.

AN EXPERIENCED SALESMAN.—The following appeared in the "Want" column of a recent issue of a leading London morning paper: "An asthma sufferer is wanted, who after being cured will enter into a position as salesman for the remedy. In applying give particulars of self-experience and salary expected."

## Trade Notes.

COMPOUND REDUCED IRON TABLOIDS have been introduced by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. One kind contains reduced iron 2 gr., extract of *hyoscyamus* 1 gr., extract of *nux vomica*,  $\frac{1}{2}$  gr., and oil of caraway  $\frac{1}{4}$  min. in each, and the other contains, in addition, a grain of compound rhubarb pill. They are nicely made, and the combination is good, especially for anaemic girls.

THE SPATULA PUBLISHING CO., Boston, Mass., have sent us a very interesting catalogue of electrotypes and half-tone and line engravings which they sell for advertising-purposes. It extends to a hundred large quarto pages, and many illustrations are undoubtedly suitable for chemists' purposes. Any *C. & D.* subscriber will obtain further particulars on writing to Mr. Irving P. Fox, c/o the company, at the above address.

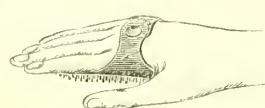
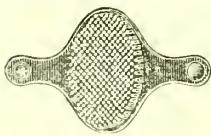
N. MARKOFF in the "Evening News" of St. Petersburg calls attention to the fact that the Russian military surgeons at the seat of war are using Dr. Takamine's adrenalin in the treatment of the wounded. He tells that the remedy is made in the laboratories of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. at Detroit, and comments on the strange coincidence that Russians have their sufferings alleviated by the discovery of a Japanese chemist.

CHECKING EMPTIES.—The latest of the series of check-books issued by Messrs. J. McQueen & Sons, Addiscombe, Croydon, is a combined carrier's receipt, advice-note, and credit-note check for returned empties. The book provides an office copy of carrier's receipt and advice-note at one writing, and is also a check on the receipt or non-receipt of credit-note. The cost is small—1s. 6d. for a book  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches by  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches by 1 inch. The book will appeal especially to provincial retailers.

"KRYPTON" is the name of a new resistance-material for heating by electricity. It is a granular mixture of graphite carbonundum, silicates, and clay, and stands a temperature of  $3,000^{\circ}$  C. It is made into all sorts of domestic, industrial, and laboratory heating-apparatus. The last named include test-tube heaters, drying-ovens, sterilisers, combustion-furnaces, boilers, and many other types of laboratory-apparatus, and they demonstrate admirably the possibilities of electric heating. We will answer any inquiries in regard to this material.

THE "BRITISH JOURNAL" PHOTOGRAPHIC ALMANAC, 1905, is as bulky as usual, and contains the many standing features we are accustomed to expect. The principal articles are "The Present and Future Position of Photography" and an "Epitome of Progress during 1904." Another article upon which we lighted, by Mr. T. C. Hepworth, is entitled "Mischiefous Patents." It is written on the erroneous assumptions that stamped medicines and patent-medicines are synonymous, and need not be labelled "Poison" even when containing a scheduled poison. Another writer has made the discovery that M.Q. developer removes paint—house-painters have used caustic soda for the purpose for years. The section on scientific societies is sadly in need of correction. There are, however, many interesting articles, and the almanac is well worth the 1s. (paper covers) or 1s. 6d. (cloth bound) that is charged for it. The wholesale photographic houses supply the book to photographic chemists on trade terms.

TOILET AND BATH BRUSH.—The illustrations show a new toilet and bath brush, or rubber mit, which has been placed on the market by Messrs. Howison & Co., 4 Snow Hill, London, E.C., who are introducing quite a series of chemists' novelties. The first illustration shows the brush open. It



is made of grey indiarubber of good quality, and buttons round the hand as shown in the second figure. It may be used dry for face and skin massage generally; also as a rubber for pet dogs, but the most general use to which it is put is as an aid in washing. It is a well-made article, and

needs little pushing for quick sales. The price is 7s. per dozen, retail 1s. each.

MALT EXTRACT IN JARS.—The firm of W. Martindale, 10 New Cavendish Street, London, W., send us a sample of the stoneware jars that they are to use in future for malt extract and malt and oil. The jar stands  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and is 5 inches in diameter. It holds a pound of either preparation, and the mouth is sufficiently wide to admit the spoon. The jars make an attractive counter-show, as may be judged from the engraving of one which accompanies this note.



A SMILING FAIR-HAIRED ENGLISH GIRL is the frontispiece to "Pears' Annual, 1904." Inside we read first "The Brogden House Affair," but it is no disrespect to Mr. James Burley, the author thereof, to say that "Christmas Days with Charles Dickens" is the lingering fancy. This is a seasonable compilation, by Mr. Percy Fitzgerald, of what Dickens wrote about Christmas. First there is "Boz" on the season which makes men kin, then Mr. Pickwick's Christmas, and what Christmas is as we grow older, with other imperishable writings from Dickens's quill. The quaint sketches by "Phiz" and John Leech which illustrated the master's letterpress when it was first given to the world are reproduced in three-block colour process, and are supplemented by similar pictures from the more modern brushes of Mr. Charles Green, R.I., and Mr. Frank Dadd, R.I. This sixpennyworth was never produced for the money, but the prodigality of the house of Pears when their century-old soap is the subject of advertisement must add something for the eye to linger on, and this we have in three splendid pictures—"Alice in Wonderland," by Fred Morgan; "A Lively Measure," by Seymour Lucas, R.A.; and "Fruit and Flowers," by E. Ladell—each suitable for framing. Mr. Thomas J. Barratt, the chairman of A. & F. Pears, Ltd., informs us that the whole of the books and plates have been entirely printed in England. By October 24 more than 500,000 copies were applied for by the trade, although the publishing-day was not until November 21. The annual sells at 6d., which is not a fourth of its value.

## Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B. Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks at the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 16, 1904.)

"KRESOPHEN"; for a disinfectant. By Willows, Francis, Butler & Thompson, Ltd., 40 Aldersgate Street, E.C. 266,309.

"BYNTOR" ("Byn" disclaimed); for medicines. By C. A. Sharp, 1 King's Head Buildings, Northgate, Darlington. 266,305.

"MERCHANT & Co."; for chemicals. By Merchant & Co., 59 Shakespeare Street, Southport. 267,108. Devico and the word "SCHLEIMANN"; for a paraffin-and-resin product. By E. Schleimann's Export Ceresiu Fabrik, 38 Catharinenstrasse, Hamburg. 265,948.

"SARTOLIN"; for vaporisers. By R. Schneider, Krausenstrasse 52, Berlin. 254,570.

"AMEORA" ("Amber" disclaimed); for soaps and a toilet-preparation. By W. H. Murray, 79 Canonbury Avenue, Islington, N. 266,079-80.

"GLIX"; for a toilet-preparation. By Gaze & Co., 10 The Avenue, Highams Park, Essex. 266,477

"HEDGEROW"; for soaps and perfumery, etc. By C. Thomas & Brothers, Ltd., Broad Plain Soap-works, Bristol. 266,509-10.

## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

### Much More Information

than is afforded by the figures published last week in reference to the balance-sheets of Lewis & Burrows and Boot's Eastern companies is required before a sound opinion on the financial prospects of company pharmacy can be formed. At present in many occupations the rivalry between one-man shops and company-directed groups of shops is very severe; but the contest is by no means over yet. There are obvious advantages on each side, and it may perhaps be admitted that so far the companies have made the better use of theirs. As a rule they have, I think, done better, financially, than a competent but unprejudiced observer would have expected from the conditions. In the two cases before us it appears that Boot's Eastern Co. made last year a net profit of 9 per cent. on their capital. Lewis & Burrows only show just over 3 per cent. These profits are after the men who work the businesses have taken a modest living out of them. How does that compare with the average of one-man pharmacies?

### The Medical Acts Amendment Bill

drafted and lately revised by the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association, was published in the last number of the "British Medical Journal." Its comprehensiveness and audacity approach the sublime. First it aims to revolutionise the General Medical Council by increasing the direct—that is, the elected—representatives on that body from five to twenty-five. The public danger of this proposal lies in the fact that the Medical Council is entrusted with judicial functions which affect the interests of its constituents. An income is to be ensured by charging an annual registration-fee; a State final examination is to be established; and centrally situated in the Bill stands a clause which would make an unqualified person who should take pay for medical or dental treatment, except under the supervision of a registered practitioner, guilty of an offence punishable in the maximum by a fine of 100*l.*, with the addition, if thought necessary, of six months' imprisonment with hard labour. Companies are expressly brought within this penal clause, their directors to be subject to the imprisonment prescribed. The Act is to come into operation in Nineteen Hundred and —. It would be wise to fill in the blank with "Ninety-nine" at once. Our Clause 7 will romp through Parliament before this one starts.

### Sir Lauder Brunton's Assurance

to the Therapeutical Society that "some wines make for joy and some for sadness" should have some important trade consequences. First it is necessary to have the two sorts carefully discriminated and their effects guaranteed by medical certificate. Then they want to be discreetly advertised, and I am not sure that the second group will not run the mere silly joy-givers close in the competition. There is a large and wealthy section of the community whose special enjoyment is "a good cry." They read countless novels and revel in theatres which furnish this luxury. "Oh, le bon temps quand j'étais malheureuse," wrote a French poetess. "She loves me best when I do sing the songs that make her grieve," says Coleridge of the much-loved Geneviève. Those who cannot sing to their Genevièves would be glad to give them some wine warranted to yield similar results. "They say you are a melancholy fellow," quoth Rosalind. "I am so; I like it better than laughing," answers the melancholy Jaques. And so say enough of us to make a nice *Vin de Tristesse* a commercial success.

### Chemist-Opticians

must be looked at askance by the official leaders of pharmacy, if the editor of the "Hospital" is to be obeyed, because according to him their ambitions have been condemned by the medical profession as adverse to the public interest. The selection of spectacles comes under the medical application of the Doctrine of the Hinterland. My friend on the "Hospital" should remember there is also a Doctrine of Effective Occupation recognised in diplomacy. But he is to be complimented on the heroic style in which he squares up against the Pharmaceutical Society. He warns it that if it continues to lend its support to the optical outcasts "it will be high time for the medical profession to reconsider its relationship to the Society." Cannot the Editor of the "Hospital" save us from such a calamity? If not, we might copy a sentence from Dr. Johnson's famous letter to the Earl of Chesterfield :

I hope it is no very cynical asperity not to confess obligation when no benefit has been received, or to be unwilling that the Publick should consider me as owing that to a Patron which Providence has enabled me to do for myself.

### Sir William Turner

has served the Medical Council well in the presidential chair during the past six years. He has not been given to much speaking himself, and his example and, perhaps, a somewhat ominous look in his eye have kept it down in others. He has been a strong President; knew his work, and did not spare himself. But this silver mace which he is presenting to the Council rather surprises me. The market-value of maces as symbols of dignity fell heavily from the day when Cromwell jeered at "that bauble." The House of Commons one found its way back, and no one laughs when the Sergeant solemnly removes it or replaces it. But a body not yet fifty years old cannot acquire old fashions without something approaching awkwardness, and I can hardly think the General Medical Council will care to play at House of Commons with their new ornament.

### A Sugar-famine

is among our prospective pleasures, and it concerns chemists by its effect on certain aerated waters, as well as on the syrups used in pharmacy. Already the duty has eaten into the profits of manufacturers of sweet things to a serious extent, but they hoped that would be temporary, and as yet they have not generally transferred to the public the 5*l.* a ton extra which they have had to pay. That at least has been the case in the aerated-water trade. But quite recently the effect of the abolition of the bounty system has been felt. Large stocks of sugar held at home and abroad have delayed the inevitable result until now, but these are running short and quotations are on the bound. The exhaustion of the stocks drives the demand on to the new sugar. But the saving of the bounties on the Continent tends to equalise prices in all markets. While it raises the price here, it reduces the price and immensely augments the consumption abroad. In Paris two years ago the retail price of sugar in the shops averaged about 5*d.*; to-day it averages 3*d.* The French consumption last year was about 660,000 tons; the year before it was 420,000 tons. Add to the smaller surplus left for us in France, Germany, and Austria the fact that under the Brussels Convention we have cut off the supply from Russia and some other countries, and it will be seen that we are probably only at the beginning of the advance. The one compensating possibility is the cultivation of the beet on a large scale in this country, an enterprise which it may be hoped the Board of Agriculture will do what it can to encourage. But at the best it must be some years before this can get beyond the experimental stage.

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## Editorial Comments.

### Dispensing and Prescribing.

We admire the energy of the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association. Not only have the members taken in hand to reform medical law in a manner as to which our contributor on the previous page suggests a controversy which will last throughout the century, but they have attacked the problem of dispensing repeats and prescribing of proprietary articles. These are two ethical matters which may last a long time as controversial subjects, but definite proposals appeal to all those who in fact as well as in law call themselves dispensing chemists. From the last issue of the "Journal" of the Association we learn that the Council at a meeting on November 16 discussed the propriety of the Association providing accommodation at its annual meeting for the exhibition of foods, drugs, etc., but a motion on the subject was lost. What the motion was the report tells not, but we may not be far wrong in saying that some righteous person with knowledge of the Medico-Political Committee's energy in regard to proprietary medicines felt that it would be consistent in the Association not to countenance the display thereof at the annual meetings. There is nothing in the report of the Council regarding the report on the prevention of the abuse of drugs which the Committee has drafted. This report is in the following

terms, and is to be regarded solely as the work of the Committee, of which the Council has not yet signified its approval :

#### 1. THE UNDULY REPEATED DISPENSING OF PRESCRIPTIONS.

The Medico-Political Committee has very carefully considered the subject of the abuses which now prevail in connection with the repeated dispensing of prescriptions beyond the intention of the prescriber, and has had the advantage of a conference with representatives of the Pharmaceutical Society.

In the present state of the law, the prescription is the property of the patient to whom it is given by the prescriber, and may be repeated as often as the owner desires.

The owner, however, can only claim the right to have prescriptions dispensed in accordance with the terms thereof, and if, therefore, directions as to the number of times for which a prescription was to be repeated or as to the period within which the prescriber intended that the administration of the drugs indicated in the prescription should be confined were made an integral part of the prescription, the dispenser would be justified in refusing to dispense the prescription otherwise than in accordance with such instructions.

Entirely to prevent the abuses in question, certain alterations of the law would be required.

Before attempting to obtain new legislation the committee is of opinion that a considerable improvement in the existing position could be effected by voluntary action of the medical profession in the following respects :

(a) That members of the profession should adopt the practice of indicating on every prescription the period, or the number of times, for which it is intended to be dispensed.

(b) That, in order to prevent copying, all prescriptions should be signed by the prescriber with his full name and address, and not merely initialled.

#### 2. THE RECOMMENDATION OF DRUGS AND PROPRIETARY ARTICLES BY NAME.

The annual representative meeting of the British Medical Association, held at Oxford, passed the following instruction to the Council, which the Council referred to the Medico-Political Committee :

Minute 115.—“That it is desirable that the Central Council draw the attention of the medical profession individually to the fact that by recommending by name certain drugs and certain preparations of those drugs, they are not only allowing themselves to be used indirectly as touts for wholesale druggists, but are also helping their patients to form, either in themselves or others, serious habits of drug abuse.”

For the purpose of bringing the matter to the notice of individual members of the profession, it is proposed to address a communication to the medical journals, but prior to taking this step the Medico-Political Committee considers it expedient that the matter should be laid before the Divisions, in conjunction with the kindred subject of the abuse of drugs resulting from the unduly repeated dispensing of prescriptions.

The committee is of opinion that the object contemplated by the resolution of the annual representative meeting would be attained if medical practitioners would observe the rule of not recommending drugs or special preparations to their patients by name, but always ordering them by prescription.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

For the convenience of the Divisions the propositions contained in this memorandum, which Divisions are invited to consider, are separately appended :

(a) That members of the profession should adopt the practice of indicating on every prescription the period, or the number of times, for which it is intended to be dispensed.

(b) That, in order to prevent copying, all prescriptions should be signed by the prescriber, with his full name and address, and not merely initialled.

(c) That medical practitioners should observe the rule of not recommending drugs or special preparations to their patients by name, but always ordering them by prescription.

These recommendations under the first heading ought to be useful to dispensing chemists in respect to the dispensing of casual prescriptions. Difficulty in regard to repeats rarely arises in dispensing practices where prescribers are closely in touch with the dispensing chemists, as then there is a degree of familiarity between both to ensure that the prescriber knows what his patients are getting. This is in everyday family practices; it is in respect to consultation advice that repeats give rise to serious difficulty, and then only in respect to narcotic drugs. It will unquestionably be

useful to chemists to have in respect to these a time-limit marked on the prescriptions, and the full name and address of the prescriber, but we question if this will be an effectual remedy for the abuse of narcotics. The recommendation would have been better if it had included a clause urging upon consultants not to prescribe morphine, cocaine, and similar habit-creating drugs without making the family medical adviser cognisant of the fact. These narcotics are merely palliative treatment, and not altogether worthy of the great profession of medicine. Whatever medical men decide in regard to such medicines, we feel that chemists as a body will faithfully endeavour to follow, but at present it looks as if what chemists have to do savours of catching the horse which has got through the open gate. The recommendation in respect to proprietary articles is, in view of the Council minute, too feeble for comment at this stage.

#### Dear Sugar.

*A 5 per cent. increase in the price [of sugar] means a million a year to us, but the increase will be far more than that, while the scheme re-introduces the protective principle into our national finances. Continental countries who enjoy the protective system pay 50 per cent. more for their sugar than we do, and if the difference is merely divided we shall have to pay 5,000,000l. a year more for what we use.*

THIS is an extract from a leaderette in THE CHEMIST AND CHEMIST, March 8, 1902. At that time the Brussels Sugar Convention had just concluded its deliberations for the abolition of sugar-bounties, and the decision then arrived at was afterwards ratified by Parliament in February, 1905. We now have dear sugar, brought about chiefly by speculators who have pretty well gauged the trend of prices, and the speculative fever has caught hold of many people outside the sugar-trade, so that a considerable amount of money has been made, and lost. Of course such transactions are purely “paper” ones, and this accounts for the many fluctuations in the course of a day. Such a market is extremely sensitive, and the selling orders and realisation of profits of some speculators on one day will bring about a decline, while on the next day buying orders will send the market up. The calling-in of “margins” and the variations in the crop-reports are other factors in the situation. For instance, a printer’s error in the figures relating to stocks, deliveries, or crops has been known to give the market a “turn.” The present speculation is primarily the outcome of the Brussels agreement, which not only abolished the bounties but prohibited supplies from such important countries as Russia and Argentine. Since then the tendency of sugar has been upwards, and prices would have been higher had it not been for the enormous quantities bought by refiners and others in anticipation of the Convention. These accumulations are now being gradually worked off, and are coming to an end.

Considerable difference of opinion exists as to whether the Convention has had anything to do with the rise, and those who supported it assert that the short beet-crops and drought on the Continent alone account for the rise. The West India Committee in their November circular, referring to the Convention, protest against “the unfair and wholly unjustified attack on one of the wisest pieces of legislation of recent years.” The wisdom, however, is not apparent to the people of Great Britain, who are now paying 1d. per lb. more for their household supplies, while Continental countries are able to buy 1½d. to 2d. per lb. cheaper than before the Convention, with the result that a great increase has taken place in consumption and a restriction in the production. In France during the year ended August, 1904, the

increase was by 89 per cent., in Germany by 52 per cent., and in Austria by 37 per cent. In July, 1902, the f.o.b. price of 88 per cent. beet sugar (the basis of all transactions in beet) at Hamburg, under the bounty system, was 6s. per cwt. (without the 4s. 6d. duty), and the price to-day ranges between 14s. and 14s. 6d. per cwt. So far as we can gather, this high level of prices is likely to rule for some months to come, and although the speculation may collapse to a certain extent, the days of cheap sugar are over, and we are not likely to see a return to the old prices which prevailed under the bounty system. The wholesale drug-trade has decided to make no alterations in the prices of preparations in which sugar is an ingredient. Simple syrup is of course an exception; the price of this has advanced in proportion to the rise in sugar. Sugar candy has also been affected, and rather more money is asked for the lower qualities of Chilian and Californian honey, which blacking-manufacturers find to be cheaper than sugar at present prices.

## A Distinguished President.

DR. DONALD MACALISTER, M.A., F.R.C.P., Hon. M.P.S., the new President of the General Medical Council, is a Scotsman who has just turned fifty. His father was Donald MacAlister of Tarbert, Cartyre, the representative of the hereditary holders of Tarbert Castle. Dr. MacAlister was educated at Aberdeen, Liverpool High School, and St. John's College, Cambridge. He was

Senior Wrangler and First Smith's Prizeman in 1877, and in the same year became B.A. Cantab., B.Sc. Lond., and Mathematical Master at Harrow School. While holding this appointment he studied medicine at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where he became lecturer in natural philosophy in 1879, the year in which he contributed to the Royal Society a paper on "The Law of the Geometric Mean in Vital Statistics." He graduated as M.B. at Cambridge in 1881, and about the same time took the M.R.C.P. He also



DR. MACALISTER.

studied at Leipzig. He has never lost touch with his Alma Mater, and at present is Linacre Reader of Physic, Assessor to the Regius Professor of Physic, and Secretary of the Medical Board, Cambridge. Dr. MacAlister has been Croonian and Goulstonian Lecturer, and has given much other evidence of his ability as a practitioner. He became a member of the General Medical Council sixteen years ago, and of recent years has been business chairman of it, as well as Chairman of the Pharmacopœia Committee. His marked business ability, quiet determination, fairness, and comparative silence have won the admiration of his colleagues. He is the ninth President of the General Medical Council and the youngest to fill the position. The names of the others, with the years when they were elected and the periods they served, are appended:

- Sir Benjamin C. Brodie, Bart., 1858, 1½ year.
- Mr. Joseph H. Green, 1860, 3½ years.
- Sir George Burrows, 1864, 4½ years.
- Sir G. E. Paget, 1869, 5 years.
- Sir H. W. Acland, 1874, 15 years.
- Mr. John Marshall, 1887, 3½ years.
- Sir Richard Quain, 1891, 7 years.
- Sir William Turner, 1898, 6½ years.

Dr. MacAlister is a man of imposing presence, and occasionally reads the lessons at the Cambridge Presbyterian Church, of which he is an elder. Mrs. MacAlister is the daughter of Dr. Alexander Macalister, F.R.S., Professor of Anatomy at Cambridge.

## Well-travelled Information.

We noticed the article on Japanese war-drugs which we published a fortnight ago was reprinted in part by the "Times," whose daily contemporaries copied it from that source. The article is now going the rounds of Continental daily papers, and appears to be creating much interest. The fact is that the information was of quite exceptional value, for the Japanese authorities have kept very quiet about their campaign arrangements. They have a magnificent Red Cross equipment, but until our article no authentic information respecting the medical and surgical supplies had leaked out.

## Antiseptic Barbery.

Dr. Collingridge, medical officer of health for the City of London, has, in conjunction with the Incorporated Guild of Hairdressers, drawn up recommendations for ensuring the sanitary condition of hairdressers' shops, of which the following are typical:

Shaving-brushes after use to be placed in a disinfecting-solution.

All hair-clippers, razors, scissors, combs, or other tools, after use to be placed in a disinfecting-solution.

No general powder-puffs to be used, but powder pulversers or cotton wool substituted. No sponges to be used.

No general alum crystals or blocks as a styptic to be used, but a liquid or powder to be applied on towel or cotton wool, or by spray.

It is the intention of the Hairdressers' Guild to grant certificates to barbers who are properly qualified and conform to the conditions, so that it may be possible for men to know that the shops to which they go are conducted on proper principles.

## Charles Rice.

The literature of our calling is by no means rich in memorials to those who have served it well, and therefore we welcome a sumptuous volume that comes to us from Professor Joseph P. Remington—"In Memoriam, Charles Rice." This remarkable man, who died on May 13, 1901, makes no claim on posterity apart from pharmacy, but his services to it are of such a nature that it may be said there are none too great to do him reverence. The volume tells in all simplicity what his achievement was. Unquestionably the fact of greatest wonder is that he spoke eight languages and read twenty, but the measure of his pharmaceutical abilities lies in the circumstance that from 1880 to the day of his death he was Chairman of the Revision Committee of the United States Pharmacopœia—the only national work, we fancy, which has embodied the pharmaceutical literature of every civilised country in the world. That distinction was due to Rice's unique linguistic accomplishments, and it is the greatest tribute to his memory to say that it was not an American characteristic. The memorial volume begins with a classic memoir of Rice, which we venture to attribute to his successor, Professor Remington. Then follow a list of Rice's degrees, etc., a bibliography of his writings from 1871, compiled by Mr. Mayo, and personal impressions by those who knew him—so catholic a congeries that the possessors of this privately printed volume must place it among their most cherished treasures as a memorial of a unique personality.

**Spurious Lycopodium.**

The "New York Journal of Commerce" of November 16 contains an interesting article on a substitute for lycopodium, which has been offered to wholesale druggists in the United States under the name of "lycopodine," and at about half the price at which the double-sifted Russian lycopodium is quoted. These offers emanate from European houses, and although the New York wholesalers appear to be unanimous in condemning the substitute, there is no doubt a considerable amount of the spurious stuff on sale by those who bought it under the impression that it was genuine. In appearance the substitute bears a strong resemblance to the original article. Dextrin, rosin, and talc are believed to be its principal ingredients, and on burning a strong resin-like odour is detected. Of course the offering of such a substitute is only prompted by the extreme scarcity and high prices that have prevailed. For instance, the present values in London range from 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per lb., whereas it could be bought in January at 2s. 6d. The consumption of lycopodium in this country is only small, its chief use being in theatrical lightning, in the manufacture of fireworks, and to a smaller extent in metallurgy. Although we understand this substitute has not been offered on the London market, this note may serve the useful purpose of drawing attention to the fact that lycopodium is easy of adulteration without detection.

**The Government and Professional Companies.**

We dealt very fully in June last with the resolution which the General Medical Council came to in regard to the Irish High Court judgments in the cases of O'Duffy *v.* Jaffe, Surgeon-dentists, Ltd., and "S. G. Rowell Dentists Ltd." The Council addressed a letter to the Lord President of the Privy Council, and Mr. FitzRoy has since replied that the matter has been submitted to the Board of Trade. This Board had recently considered the claim to registration of the American Dental Surgeon Specialist, Ltd., and had been advised that

the applicants are entitled to registration so long as the title is not calculated to mislead the public into supposing that the business of the company is carried on by persons having special skill in dentistry. . . . The Board's legal advisers added that the title of the American Dental Specialists, etc., appeared to them to be of such nature as to render it proper that its right to registration should be contested, it being calculated to induce the belief that those who form the company have special qualification in dentistry. The Board have been further advised that companies, the titles of which do not necessarily indicate that one of their objects includes the carrying-on of the business of dentistry, but the carrying-on of such business is included in the objects clause of the memorandum, are entitled to registration, whether or not the memorandum of association limits the carrying-on of the business of dentistry to persons duly qualified to practise dentistry.

This statement has apparently surprised the General Medical Council, who have replied in a very long letter, which we print on page 925. The letter reveals a certain amount of innocent surprise that the Government Department most interested in the protection of professional qualifications is not more eager to right the wrong. Chemists, who have been hammering at the Government and Parliamentary doors about this matter for nearly a quarter of a century, could give the Medical Council some Job's comfort in their helplessness.

**BLACKMAIL.**—A new sort of "bunco game" has developed in New York City. Men who call themselves "Board of Pharmacy inspectors" find the druggist guilty of some technical violation of the law and then threaten him with prosecution if he does not make it worth their while to forget the case. Druggists are wheedled out of \$25 or \$50 by this ingenious scheme.

**East Indian News.**

(From our own Correspondent.)

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES F. BAKER, of Calcutta, returned from their holiday home on November 11 per s.s. *Nardinia*.

OPIUM-SMUGGLING IN ASSAM.—Arrangements have recently been made (at the suggestion of the Indian Government) for strengthening the staff of Excise inspectors in Assam in order to cope with the increase in opium-smuggling. Five additional Excise inspectors have been appointed.

THE GOVERNMENT FOREST DEPARTMENT in Coorg in Southern India had a good year in 1903-4 in connection with the sale of the produce of their sandalwood-plantation, a revenue of Rs. 1,02,665 being realised from the sale of 204 tons of wood, the prices obtained being somewhat higher than in the previous year.

TEACHING X-RAY WORK.—It is under consideration by the Government of India to establish an *x-ray* Institute at Dehra Dun which will undertake the training of medical officers and subordinates, including hospital assistants, both in military and civil employ. Two classes, each of them of three months' duration, are to be held annually.

**College Notes.**

MUTER'S SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.—There have been perfectly unauthorised and unfounded rumours recently about this well-known South London School of Pharmacy. Further than that Dr. John Muter has retired in favour of his son, Mr. A. H. Mitchell Muter, F.I.C., F.C.S., who is associated in the directorship with Mr. Charles A. Hackman, F.I.C., the school continues on its prosperous career, and an official announcement is made in respect to it this week.

FOOTBALL.—"Square" v. "Polytechnic C."—This match was played at Merton Hall ground on November 26. The "Square," accompanied by several enthusiastic supporters, turned out in good style in spite of the weather. The ground was covered with ice and snow, and a fog prevailed so thick that it was impossible to see the goal from the centre line. The "Poly" were slightly the heavier team, and for the first few minutes of play pressed heavily the "Square" goal. Afterwards the "Square" got away, and had the best of the game. A goal was scored by Verrill for the "Square," the half-time score being "Square" 1, "Poly" 0. In the second half the fog became much thicker, and one more goal was added for the "Square," the final score being "Square" 2, "Poly" nil.

**WHERE TO STUDY.**

THE FOLLOWING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS are advertising in this issue:

South London School of Pharmacy, 325 Kennington Road, S.E.

Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, 160 to 162 Kennington Park Road, S.E.

London College of Chemistry, 323 Clapham Road, S.W.  
Manchester College of Pharmacy, 225A and 227A Oxford Street, Manchester.

Northern College of Pharmacy, Burlington Street, Manchester.

Brixton School of Pharmacy, 171 Brixton Road, S.W.  
Leeds College of Pharmacy, Clarendon Road, Leeds.

West of Scotland College of Pharmacy, 157 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

**Gazette.****Partnerships Dissolved.**

**Kisch, A., and Bousfield, S.,** Portsdown Road and Princes Square, W., physicians and surgeons.

**Scott, J. G. J., and Scott, A. W. B.,** under the style of Scott et Cie., Paris, and Little Britain, E.C., chemists and druggists.

**Smith, T. H., and Spink, E. W.,** Reddish, Lancs, medical practitioners.

**West, E., and West, T.,** under the style of E. & A. West, Derby, ch mical manufacturers.

**The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.****RECEIVING ORDER.**

**Weaver, Thomas,** Reading, mineral-water manufacturer.

**ADJUDICATION.**

**Crowther, George Arthur,** late Patricroft, now 96 Smedley Road, Cheetham, Manchester, drug, draysaltery, and tobacco-dealer.

## Winter Session.

### Association Ballad.

#### THE PURPOSE.

*The men, their aims, their daily irk;  
Their troubles, trials, thoughts, and views;  
On things politic, foes that lurk  
In friendly guise, but treach'rous work—  
These be the burden of our Muse.*

#### XLVII. LONDON (POOR-LAW DISPENSERS').

WHEN our Poor-law Guardians raving, to effectuate a saving,  
Try to gain a reputation at the pharmacist's expense,  
They are met with an enflankment from a House on the  
Embankment,

Where P.L. dispensers gather for their mutual recompence.  
Thus the Guardians bold and breezy find it sometimes far  
from easy.

To indulge in verbal fable or sophisticated myth;  
When "dispensing's" in their vision, and their subsequent  
decision

Oft depends upon the dicta sent by Montagu G. Smith.  
They have found that modes primeval are oft prone to "raise  
the deevil,"

And that premature cheese-paring must be laid upon the  
shelf;

For this pert Association will send up a deputation,  
And they suffer from Smith's logic and the arguments of  
Kelf.

Boards have found that themes historic have induced a state  
caloric,

And so many things have swallowed that have doubtless  
raised their gorge;

For though Kelf has gone and left them (and confessedly  
beneft them),

They have still got Horrell, Dunstan, and the omnipresent  
George.

And when problems Trayner tackles, off are thrown conven-  
tion's shackles,

And suggestions flow from Turner, Darch, and Strickland  
in a host;

While the watchful Walker's murmur, as he holds the shekels  
firmer,

Just reminds them that at all times it is well to count the  
Coste.

Thus is built an iron fence, sir, round the deft Poor-law Dis-  
penser,

And the Powers-that-be are learning they have something  
keen to fight;

For from Southwark to Saint Pancras there is not a single  
one crass

Indefensible anomaly that isn't soon put right.

### Chemists' Assistants' Association.

No formal meeting of this Association was held on November 24, as Dr. Russell Ryan was not well enough to read the paper due that night. Only half-a-dozen members were present.

### Barnsley Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on Thursday, November 24, at the Royal Hotel, Barnsley. Messrs. R. J. Butcher (Chapeltown), D. T. Jones (Swinton), and — Pepper (Mexborough), were elected members. A discussion, joined in by Messrs. Matthew, Oglesby, Norwood, Nash, Bellamy, and Rigby, on the private protection of proprietary articles, resulted in a general expression of opinion as to the utter futility of private attempts at the protection of prices, private protectionists being regarded as half-hearted and insincere.

### Bradford Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Royal Hotel, Bradford, on Tuesday evening, November 29, Mr. A. Hanson presiding. A letter from Mr. R. Broadhead, in regard to Mr. Robinson's communication on the titles question, was referred to the Council for consideration. Mr. George Penty then read a paper on

#### INFECTION AND DISINFECTION.

This, he said, was suggested by the recent advocacy of the standardisation of disinfectants. He dealt with the trans-

mission of disease through the air and by other means, touching upon the various kinds of micro-organisms which are concerned in such transmission. He gave a sketch of the progress of bacteriology, and showed that it will not be possible to stamp out most infectious diseases until we possess an accurate knowledge of the life-history of the micro-organisms which convey them. One of the greatest dangers is in the occurrence of mild cases which are unrecognised, a better means of diagnosis being required. The appointment of official pathologists to make bacteriological diagnoses would be a step in the right direction. One means of preventing the spread of infectious diseases is the use of disinfectants. Antiseptics only prevent or retard; a disinfectant kills. The most important disinfecting-agents are heat, chemical substances and sunlight. Moist heat, such as saturated steam, is best. It is by no means easy to disinfect by chemical substances, either in solution or in gaseous form. A bacteriological standardisation of disinfectants has been advocated, it being urged that all disinfectants should have, if not a Government guarantee, at least a maker's warranty. The idea is workable, and should at least insure the use of disinfectants of proved potency, besides being a valuable guide to those who have charge of disinfecting-operations. Mr. Penty also dealt with the effect of sunshine on micro-organisms. The Chairman and Mr. Dunn complimented him, and he was thanked by the meeting.

### Cheltenham and District Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at the Pioneer Club Rooms, Gloucester, on Thursday, November 24, the President (Mr. William Barron, Cheltenham) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. J. Chambers, A. Hill, F. T. Palmer, A. C. Saxby, J. Stewart, W. E. Church, T. R. Millman, W. Marchant, A. J. Wells, and J. A. Thomas (Secretary). The Vice-President (Mr. Freshfield Reynolds) read a very interesting paper on

#### IDEAL PHARMACY.

Having had experience in supervising the refitting of three establishments in Leeds, Harrogate, and Gloucester, in the carrying-out of which he had introduced original ideas and methods, his suggestions were particularly instructive to those starting in business, and equally so to any contemplating making any change or improvement in their business-premises or shopfittings, whereby space could be utilised to the best advantage, and methods and ideas introduced calculated to save much time and expedite everyday work and manipulations. Mr. Reynolds was enabled fully to convey his ideas on general arrangement and style of interior and exterior work by showing the members a series of eight or ten large photographs of well-known pharmacies, which greatly added to the interest of his remarks, and also by a display of the most modern types of shop-rounds and dispensing-conveniences made by the York Glass Co. One specimen was quite new to the audience—viz., a 10-oz. bottle with elongated stopper which has the bottom part converted into a graduated measure.

Mr. Barron thanked the Vice-President, and then very graphically described the general arrangement of the shop and the various dispensing methods in vogue where he was apprenticed seventy years ago. Nearly all present commented on Mr. Reynolds's paper.

### Society of Chemical Industry.

#### NOTTINGHAM SECTION.

THE second meeting of the session was held on November 23 at the Grand Hotel, Leicester, Mr. J. T. Wood being in the chair. Mr. S. R. Trotman (Hon. Secretary) read a paper on

THE MINERAL CONSTITUENTS OF SUMACH, in which he pointed out that the subject of the ash-contents of sumach and its composition had hardly received the attention it deserves, the custom of tanners seeming to be to raise no objection to excessive ash so long as the tannin-content passed muster. As much damage may be done to skins by comparatively small quantities of iron, and sand is also

undesirable, this attitude seems unwise. The author suggested that by proper winnowing the ash could be considerably reduced, and gave results that he himself had obtained by imperfectly operating in the laboratory :

	Before Winnowing.	After Winnowing.
Ash ...	... 8.85	6.60
Silica ...	... 2.25	0.98
Iron ...	... 0.50	0.20

On the industrial scale this result might be improved upon. The quantity of iron is by no means to be disregarded. Since sumachs often contain a considerable quantity of gallic acid, the importance of their freedom from iron may readily be understood, especially in cases where they are used for finishing goods. Mr. Trotman also contributed a further note "On the Constituents of Glue," and the meeting terminated.

### Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING was held on Thursday evening, November 24, when Mr. W. L. Currie, the President, read a paper on

#### PHARMACEUTICAL TOPICS.

The first question he touched upon was the sale of poisons to the public. He considered that some moral obligation rests upon the chemist in the matter, which is not merely a money-making one, and urged that in regard to the supply of cocaine and morphine, or other drugs which may lead to pernicious habits, the chemist should exercise wise discretion, insisting on a properly authenticated medical prescription. The sale of such drugs in any form should be strongly discouraged, and hypodermic syringes should not be sold to the public at all. Mr. Currie then referred to the repetition of prescriptions containing sedatives, stating that he was not prepared to say chemists should take the initiative, but it is a subject worthy of their most earnest consideration. He next referred to the prescribing of proprietary preparations—not new drugs pure and simple or special preparations of pure drugs, but the multifarious array of special combinations of drugs to form mixture this or liquor the other thing. These, he said, are simply mixtures of well-known drugs, capable of being put together by any chemist, and probably, in many cases, with greater certainty of result. Had they not all felt a certain loss of dignity when they had to express to a customer their inability to dispense his prescription, while all the while they had the drugs on their shelves? Mr. Currie next spoke about Mr. Gifford's proposal for the Pharmaceutical Society to have an organising secretary, deprecating the appointment, and dealing with the Shop-hours Act said it is a misfortune that chemists were not included in it. If Lord Avebury's clause had been incorporated in that Act, chemists would have required to conform to whatever closing-hour was generally agreed to, with certain reservations which would have caused hardship to no one. Fifty years ago there was started in that city an association whose object it was to make the closing-hour for chemists eight o'clock. In that object they failed, and matters are much worse now. It is melancholy to think that it can be said of gentlemen who consider themselves educated men and perhaps a trifle above the ordinary class of shopkeeper, that they keep open late in order to eke out their existence. In regard to the Pharmacy Bill, he said the whole difficulty centres round Clause 7, which means that joint-stock companies carrying on the business of a chemist and druggist must have as directors qualified men. To his mind, that is a simple demand for justice. The Legislature insisted that the individual before commencing business should become qualified. Why it should not insist upon the same thing in the case of a collection of individuals he had never been able to understand. They were told that the Government is averse to this proposal, and that if they were to have legislation forwarded at all they must be prepared to accept some sort of compromise. His view of it was this : They had made their demand; they thought it was fair, just, and reasonable; they were of opinion that an injustice had been done, and that it lies in the power of Parliament to restore the principle of the 1868 Act. If the question of compromise is to be entertained at all, and

Clause 7 modified, then he thought they ought to know exactly what the Government would be prepared to give them before they gave way a single inch. He believed that otherwise the Bill would receive the support of the great majority of the House of Commons. It would give them some things which they ought to have had long ago, and which, keeping in view their safety, would be of great advantage to the public.

In the course of the discussion which followed, Mr. Moir said there are a great many preparations in which morphine is used, and the question is what chemists should do about them. If they refused to let people have them, they would just go to the nearest store and get as much as they wanted. In regard to Clause 7 he thought that the Society ought to make the best terms possible. He thought the question of early closing must be left to be dealt with voluntarily among themselves.

Mr. David Watson opposed the idea of an organising secretary.

Mr. Gilmour said that if they found it necessary to refuse to sell a poison asked for, they would lose the customer, and in that way they would pay a penalty for their conscientiousness. He thought there was something in the idea of an organising secretary, as divisional secretaries cannot do everything.

Mr. Currie briefly replied.

### Irish Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

THE usual weekly meeting of this Association was held on November 25, at the Nelson Café, 33 Lower Sackville Street, Dublin, the President (Mr. Edgar B. Aplin) in the chair. Some routine business having been transacted, Mr. Aplin read a paper on

THE CHEMIST AND HIS CUSTOMERS, in the course of which he spoke of the varied duties of the chemist; among the most important being the testing and preservation of the drugs sold by him. The chemist is in a way the gatekeeper of the public health, and it behoves him to keep a careful watch on the inroads of unwelcome visitors. A systematic examination of his bolts and bars, as represented by his medicines, is his safeguard against invasion. A good deal of energy is expended in letting the public know that the chemist is not an ordinary trader: the same end would be brought about by actions, not words: this could be achieved by showing the community that the chemist is a man of care and carefulness, and, having gone so far, increased cash and *kudos* would follow. In the matter of incompatibilities Mr. Aplin thought the chemist is quite justified in preventing such by any reasonable means in his power, always bearing in mind that therapeutic activity should never be sacrificed in the effort to produce an elegant preparation, and the addition of an inert substance in order to turn out a presentable mixture is, generally speaking, permissible. The indiscriminate repetition of prescriptions by the public is a practice to be condemned, and unless countersigned by a doctor an old prescription should be compounded with reserve. The responsibility of vending narcotic drugs and such things as methylated spirit is not less because they do not appear on the Poisons Schedule, and the chemist who lends himself to the sale of such articles without making judicious inquiry as to the ultimate use of the drugs takes on his shoulders a weight not commensurate with the profit derived from the sale. It is to the credit of the chemist that despite the free hand which the law allows him in the vending of unscheduled poisons, the fatalities resulting from their sale are comparatively trifling; and it is owing to his watchfulness that many serious accidents and loss of life are averted. In view of such a trusteeship it is only fair that the chemist should be allowed a monopoly in the sale of all poisons, but it is unfortunately the other way about. Mr. Aplin next referred to proprietary medicines and concluded by pointing out a few hindrances to the progress of the chemist who would fain be up to date—want of originality in carrying on business, lack of commercial enterprise generally, sameness in shop fittings and stock-jars, and a hankering after that "beggarly array of empty bottles" so dear to the old-fashioned apothecary.

## Cumberland and Westmoreland Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held in the King's Arms Hotel, Kendal, on Thursday, November 24. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, the chair was occupied by Mr. Thomas Bateson (Kendal). Chemists were present from Ambleside, Appleby, Windermere, Bowness, Penrith, Keswick, Kendal, and a deputation from Blackburn.

### COUNTRY CHEMISTS.

The Secretary (Mr. T. W. Townley) read some notes on the isolation of country chemists and their long hours of business, attributing many misunderstandings to the want of personal conversation with their fellow-chemists to discuss their grievances, and expressing the hope that the Association would be the means of binding chemists together into one united body either for defence of their rights or to promote legislation in their favour. Mr. Townley also spoke on territorial representation, and pointed out that chemists should personally canvass farmers at home, on market and fair days, and at the weekly auctions, to keep the sheep-dip trade in their own hands. If, he said, Lord Onslow introduces the compulsory dipping of all sheep with dip of acknowledged strength and efficient quality at a moderate price, chemists could effectually guarantee an abundant supply. There is no need for a third schedule of poisons to be sold by grocers and iron-mongers in sealed packets, because chemists by their education and training are able to carry out the provisions of the Pharmacy Act and, at the same time, see that deadly poisons were not sold to the public but in proper bottles and also with a necessary caution as to their use. Mr. Townley also referred to price-cutting and to divisional secretaries of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Mr. R. Lord Gifford (Blackburn) then addressed the meeting on his organisation scheme along the lines reported from the Leeds meeting last week. He added words of commendation respecting Mr. Walter Hills's work on the Poisons Committee, and the service he is now doing in respect to the British Pharmacopoeia, which is resulting in pharmacists taking a more important position in the revision of that work.

## Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association.

THE annual meeting of the members of this Association was held at the Park Hotel, Cardiff, on November 30. The chair was occupied by Mr. A. Hagon. The Secretary, Mr. R. Mumford, read the report of the committee, recording another successful year. The activity of the President during the year was acknowledged, and the finances of the Association were reported to be in a favourable condition, there being a balance in hand of £16. 11s. 7d. The Chairman thought the report was a satisfactory one, and the fact that their membership, after four years' existence of the Association, was as large now as at the outset was one upon which they might congratulate themselves. The report was adopted.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of officers and committee for the ensuing year. Mr. W. R. Hopkins, of Barry, was elected President, Mr. H. A. Bellamy Vice-President, Mr. D. Anthony Treasurer, Mr. Blake Benjamin Commercial Secretary, and Mr. R. Mumford General Secretary. The following were elected the executive Committee: Messrs. A. Hagon, R. Drane, Jabez A. Jones, Leo Joseph, Thompson Williams, H. A. Gerbold, W. H. Thomas, Templar Malins, and Allen (Barry).

The Chairman proposed a vote of sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Sanders on their sad bereavement. Mr. Sanders, he said, was their first acting Secretary, and was now settled in Upper Norwood. He had just lost his son, a boy of sixteen or seventeen, who died after three days' illness while staying at a farm in Sussex whither he had been sent for his health. Mr. R. Drane seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Secretary was also instructed to write to Mr. Alfred Coleman, who had recently removed to Newport, wishing him success in his new career.

Subsequently the members and their friends held a whist-drive at the Bungalow in 11<sup>o</sup>. Street.

## Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland.

The committee met on November 30 in the Society's Rooms, Royal Avenue, Belfast, Mr. Samuel Achison in the chair. There was a good attendance.

A letter from a pharmaceutical chemist was read, asking for terms of membership, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to reply.

Mr. J. D. Carse gave notice to amend the rule relating to membership at the next annual meeting.

Reports referring to subscriptions outstanding and the Law Committee were presented and adopted. A Report *re* an amendment of the Pharmacy Act was considered and referred to the smoking-concert for further consideration. A report *re* annual concert was presented by Mr. John Frackleton, and adopted.

Arrangements were made for the holding of the

### ANNUAL SMOKING-CONCERT

on December 7, at eight o'clock, in the Society's rooms, Garfield Chambers, Royal Avenue, Belfast, when, in addition to music, readings, etc., by members, there will be a short discussion on trade topics, to be introduced by Messrs. J. D. Carse, S. Achison, and J. Frackleton.

## Midland Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Tuesday evening, November 29, Mr. A. W. Gerrard (President) in the chair. The first paper read was on the proposed

### OFFICIAL TESTS FOR ARSENIC.

By E. W. Mann, Ph.C.

The author said that Messrs. Dunstan and Robinson started out with the intention of providing a test which it is not out of the power of the average pharmacist to perform with simple and comparatively inexpensive apparatus, and to fix such standards as will satisfy any reasonable demand for purity without unduly increasing the cost of the drug. For pharmaceutical purposes three tests only for arsenic can be practically considered—viz., the Reinsch, the Marsh-Berzelius, and the recommended test, commonly known as the Gutzeit. The Reinsch test lacks delicacy, and as to the merits and demerits of the other two, the Marsh-Berzelius is far and away the more delicate, while the Gutzeit for pharmaceutical purposes is the more convenient, but the question is, Is it delicate enough? To answer this the author made a very large number of experiments in the laboratories of Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay; in the first place a Marsh test was carried out simultaneously with the proposed test on a number of B.P. chemicals, and the results compared; the conclusions arrived at were:

That many of these chemicals gave no reaction whatever with the Gutzeit, but gave a fairly distinct mirror with the Marsh.

That 0.004 mgm. of arsenic gives a distinct mirror with Marsh, and a just perceptible coloration with the Gutzeit.

That the presence of iron in the zinc used had a very material influence in the delicacy of either test. It was found repeatedly that where 0.004 mgm. of As could be detected using the Gutzeit test with iron-free zinc, as much as 0.012 mgm. was needed to produce a similar coloration when zinc containing iron was used. It would appear, therefore, that using iron-free reagents we may reckon upon detecting 0.004 mgm. of As by the Gutzeit test. This is equivalent, when 4 grams of the drug is used, to one part of arsenic per million, and by increasing the quantity of material operated upon we may within limits still further reduce the proportion of arsenic detectable. It seems probable that greater refinement than this is not needed in pharmaceutical work; and, starting out with this assumption, the greater number of the substances mentioned in the "recommendations" were submitted to the test to see how ordinary commercial B.P. qualities compared with the prescribed standards. Among the results obtained were the following:

*Samples found to give no perceptible stain.*—Acid, phosphoric, hydrochloric, nitric, (1.5), citric, boric, tartaric, liq. ammon. fort., potass. acet., potass. tart. acid., potass. carb., potass. b. carb., potass. iodid., potass. sulphas, potass. chloras, potass. metab. sulph., soda tartarata, sodi. bromid., sodi. phosphas, sodi. carb., sodi. bicarb., ammon. carb., zinci chlorid., zinci acet., z. nci. sulphocarb., calcii phosphas, calcii hydras, lithii carb., mag. carb. pond., mag. carb. levis, mag. calc. pond., mag. calc. levis, sodium, glycerimum, syrup, glucos., ferri sulphas, potassa caustica.

*Samples found to give a stain less than that of one part per mill. on. of arsenium.*—Acid, citric, acid, tartaric, borax, calcii carb. præcip., acid, sulphuric, acid, nitric.

*Samples found to give stains (equivalent to between one and three per million).*—Borax, cerii oxalas, acid, acetic, acid, hydrobrom, dil., acd. lactic, alumen (potash and ammonia), ammon. brom., ammon. chlorid., ammon. phosph., potass. brom., potass. cit., calcii chlorid., lithii cit., magics. sulph., phenazonum, sulphur sublim., sodi. sulphas, z. nci. sulphas, potass. tart., sodi. iodid.; (*exceeding three parts per million*) ferrum redactum, ferrum sulphur præcip. A single sample of pharmaceutical iron wire gave about 100 parts per million. Eight samples of ferrum redactum gave the following somewhat remarkable results—viz., 30, 60, 60, 90, 90, 120, 120, and 1,000 parts of arsenium per million.

The standard suggested for the greater part of the B.P. chemicals is one of three per million, and a consideration of the lists given will show that as far as this inquiry goes, the condition is one that is commercially obtainable. There are a few instances where the proposed standard is more rigid. These are: Citric and tartaric acids, to contain less than one per million; sulphuric, nitric, and hydrochloric acids, to contain less than three-tenths per million; liq. ammon. fortis to contain less than one-tenth per million. In the case of the three mineral acids alone do these requirements seem too stringent.

#### DISCUSSION.

Mr. H. W. Jones (Coventry) endorsed very much the views of Professors Dunstan and Robinson. There was an outcry that the proposed standards are far too rigid, but he thought, in the interests of all concerned, they are reasonable if manufacturers are careful to produce the right chemicals. It is certainly greatly to the advantage of chemists to sell the very best article, and he heartily welcomed a fairly rigid standard. Mr. Jones recommended Kirby's apparatus for testing-purposes.

Mr. F. H. Alcock said that Mr. Mann had not referred to Beckendorf's test, which he thought is a very simple and effectual one for all pharmacists to use.

Mr. Shorthouse said he had devoted seven years to this particular test of arsenic, and made 100 tests a week, particularly with pure acids. Beckendorf's test with coloured substances is not very satisfactory.

Mr. G. E. Perry said he had been in the habit of using Beckendorf's test for many years for detecting arsenic in wall-paper, and he used iodine to break up the sulphur compound, and it seemed to give a fairly satisfactory conclusion. He did not use mercurial paper, but silver-nitrate paper.

The Chairman said pharmacists had to encourage purity in the highest possible degree.

Mr. Mann having replied, a vote of thanks was accorded to him.

The next paper read was on

#### CHARTA SINAPIS.

By A. W. Gerrard.

The introduction of mustard-paper to this country took place about fifty years ago, under the name of Rigollot's mustard-leaves. Its popularity grew apace, for it was soon recognized by the British public as a valuable, clean, and economical substitute for the old-fashioned mustard poultice. Rigollot's mustard-leaves held the market for many years, and they still maintain a good sale and reputation. At one time it was thought that these leaves owed their activity to capsicum, but careful analysis has shown this to be erroneous. Mustard-paper was first officialised in the Addendum to the 1867 B.P., and was made from powdered mustard and gutta-percha solution. The author said in 1873 that it was unsatisfactory, and recommended the paper to be made from oil-free black mustard and benzol solution of indiarubber. The B.P. now gives the

U.S.P. form. It is unworthy of British and American pharmacy. It is the work of amateurs, the work of unskilled workmen, of unpractised hands. In the first place, the official solution of indiarubber is made by dissolving the rubber in a mixture of carbon bisulphide and benzol. Plain benzol is better. Some experiments were made to test the rapidity of the solution of the rubber respectively in the plain and in the mixed solvent. It was observed that for the first half-hour of maceration the mixed solvent appeared to act most rapidly, but longer digestion demonstrated there was no difference, for in about two to two and a half hours, with frequent stirring, a viscous homogeneous fluid is obtained in both cases. Furthermore, the plain benzol solution gives a mustard-paper that is in all respects satisfactory. The B.P. instruction to apply the mustard mass to paper "by means of a suitable brush" is crude, the mustard mass being so viscous and tenacious that it will not distribute in this way. It would have been more satisfactory to have directed that the mass be spread by means of a plaster-spreading machine, or on the small scale that sheets of suitable paper should be passed over the surface of the mass contained in a shallow vessel. The official rubber solution is too strong (1 in 20), and the author now suggests 1 in 40, his formula being:

Black and white mustard, in No. 60 powder, deprived of fixed oil, 1 part; benzol solution of indiarubber (1 in 40), 4 parts. Mix to a smooth mass, and spread the same over one side of a suitable paper by means of a plaster-spreading machine, or by passing the paper over the mass contained in a suitable shallow vessel. Expose to warm air for a short time to dry. Preserve the dry paper in well-closed boxes.

Mustard paper after spreading should not be long exposed to light and air, as not only does the mustard bleach, but the rubber soon perishes, and moisture makes the mustard lose its virtue.

A brief discussion followed, and the President was accorded a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks.

#### PUBLIC DISPENSERS' ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING was held at St. Bride's Institute, E.C., on November 30, Mr. F. Noad Clark, Chairman of Council, presiding. There was a fair attendance. In

#### THE ANNUAL REPORT.

just issued the Council refer with great satisfaction to the successful result of their representation to the Home Secretary regarding the increase in the scale of remuneration for prison dispensers. An alteration in the Pharmacy Act, to secure that only registered chemists be allowed to hold office as dispensing chemists in public institutions, is referred to, and the hope expressed that something will be done in the matter when the Pharmacy Bill is reintroduced. A sub-committee was appointed to see what could be done to bring together pharmacists and dispensers of hospitals as members in one representative association, without success. The sub-committee for compiling a register of dispensers in public institutions has not yet concluded its labours. The membership is the same as at the end of the previous year, and there is a balance of 17. 5s. 10d. in hand. The Council expresses thanks to the President of the Association, Mr. T. H. W. Idris, for his advice and help during the year, and reference is made to the success of the efforts of the Association in securing that all the dispensers in L.C.C. asylums shall be designated "dispensing chemists."

#### CORRESPONDENCE AND BENEVOLENCE.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. S. H. Leadbeater) reported what had occurred at the last meeting of the Council, and the proceedings were approved. It was agreed to give six votes to Mr. Brodribb, and two votes to Mrs. Ann Millar, candidates for Pharmaceutical annuities. Council have written to the Local Government Board and to the Metropolitan Asylums Board, asking that only registered chemists should be employed as dispensers. With reference to the Metropolitan Asylums Board's decision, at a recent meeting, "to take no action in the matter" of their dispensing chemists, regarding which the Association had memorialised the Board, it was agreed, on the motion of Mr. W. S. Goodall, that the Council further consider the matter and report. The Chairman intimated that Mr. Watson-Will had sub-

scribed a guinea to the funds of the Association, after which Mr. Leadbeater read some notes on the

#### DISPENSING OF INSOLUBLE PREPARATIONS.

Although tablets of insoluble substances are now largely used, the author thought the fluid form of administration is preferred by medical men. Such things as bismuth carbonate and salicylate he rubs down with plain water, and as a general suspending-agent uses a mixture of equal parts of powdered tragacanth and acacia. Tragacanth alone makes too thick a mixture, and mucilage of acacia is by no means ideal. Compound tragacanth powder is better than either, but the necessity for the sugar and starch is not apparent in many cases. Beta-naphthol is largely used in the author's hospital for diarrhoea. He dispenses it by rubbing the powder down with a few drops of water, then suspending with compound tragacanth powder or a mixture of tragacanth and acacia. The same method is used for sulphonial and trional. The same also for guaiacol carbonate (10 grains requires 2 grains of the mixed tragacanth and acacia), antifebrin, phenacetin, exalgin, and benzoic acid. For salol compound tragacanth powder is best, Mr. Leadbeater disapproving of Martindale's formula for the mixture. If the prescribed dose of butyl-chloral hydrate does not exceed 10 grains, it will dissolve in water without suspension; if over that dose, unless a tincture or glycerin be present in the mixture, it will require suspension with 1 grain per oz. of acacia and tragacanth. For chloralamide hot water is barred, but Mr. Leadbeater sees no reason why warm water should not be used. He has found it difficult to get a 1-in-20 solution, and a stock mixture at his hospital consisting of

Chloralamid.	... ...	5ss.
Spt. vini rect.	... ...	3ij.
Aquam ad	... ...	5j.

Chloralamid.	... ...	5ss.
Spt. vini rect.	... ...	3ij.
Aquam ad	... ...	5j.

is unsatisfactory. He thinks it best always to suspend with acacia and tragacanth straight away. He uses the same suspending-agent for precipitated sulphur, salicylic acid, and quinine salicylate in the proportion of 1 grain to the ounce. The formula evolved by Mr. Noad Clark for the suspension of iodoform he has found very satisfactory. One part of precipitated iodoform is shaken up with 1 part of spirit, and glycerin added to 10 parts. For bromoform the following gives a satisfactory result :

Bromoform.	... ...	5ss.
Tr. senegae	... ...	5ij.

Misce bene et adde—		
---------------------	--	--

Syrupi	... ...	5iv.
Aquam ad	... ...	5vj.

Misce.		
--------	--	--

Tincture of senega may also be used with advantage for paraldehyde, three or four drops being sufficient to emulsify 1 dr. of paraldehyde. A very good mixture is made as follows :

Paraldehyde	... ...	5ij.
Acacia and tragacanth	... ...	gr. ij.

Tincture of senega	... ...	miij.
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Water to	... ...	5j.
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This makes a lasting emulsion. The B.P. formula for creosote mixture answers well. For extract of male fern, acacia in powder is first shaken up with the extract, and water added. Croton oil is best suspended by dissolving in spirit and shaking up with acacia and tragacanth, using no mortar. For copaiba, acacia alone is used. Liq. potassae (6 drops in 1 oz.) is the best emulsifier for castor oil. The castor oil is put first into a dry bottle, then 3 parts of the diluted liq. potassae added to the oil, the whole well shaken, and the rest of the potash solution added. Croton oil makes a very satisfactory mixture when given in combination with compound decoction of aloes. A stock draught contains  $\frac{1}{2}$  j. of oil and 5j. of compound decoction of aloes in each dose. If a few grains of acacia-and-tragacanth powder be added to tincture of cannabis indica in a dry bottle and well shaken up, water being added gradually, a satisfactory emulsion results.

#### DISCUSSION.

The Chairman said he had been enlightened on several points. With regard to exalgin his practice is to get the doctors to order sufficient spirit to dissolve. In his institution benzoic acid is ordered frequently in mixture in 10-grain doses. He had a lot of trouble at first, but now his practice is to use very hot water for solution. He found no crystallising out after cooling.

## Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by Editor on Wednesday of each week.

### Saturday, December 3.

*Inter-Pharmacy Football League*, Westminster v. Metropolitan College.

### Monday, December 5.

*Society of Chemical Industry, London Section*, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 p.m. Dr. E. Divers on "Raschig's Theory of the Lead-chamber Process" and "Theory of the Action of Metals on Nitric Acid"; Mr. Llewellyn J. Davies on "A Rapid and Accurate Method for the Estimation of Phosphorus in Iron Ores"; and Mr. C. S. S. Webster, "Fluorescope for Comparing Substances under the Influence of Radium Rays."

*Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club*, Imperial Hotel, Market Street. Smoking-concert, Mr. W. A. Davies (Messrs. Raines, Clark & Co.) in the chair.

*Dewsbury Chemists' Association*, Church House, at 8.45 p.m. Mr. R. Broadhead on "The Titles Question."

### Tuesday, December 6.

*Wakefield Chemists' Association*, Victoria Temperance Hotel, at 8.15 p.m. Discussion on "The Shop-hours Act, 1904."

*British Optical Association*, Mount Vernon Hospital, Fitzroy Square, W. Examinations commence, and continue on Wednesday.

### Wednesday, December 7.

*Society of Arts*, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 p.m. Mr. W. F. Reid on "The International Exhibition at St. Louis."

*Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemists' Association*, Collingwood Restaurant, Great Market, at 8 p.m. Smoking-concert.

*Stockport Chemists' Association*, Albert Hall, at 9 p.m. Ordinary meeting.

*London Chemists' Association, South Branch*, The Horns, Kennington, at 3.30 p.m. Mr. Willson will open a discussion on "Tricky Trade."

*Thames Valley Chemists' Association*, Kingston Hotel, Kingston (opposite the railway station), at 8 p.m. Mr. T. E. Wallis will read a paper on "The Practice of Professional Pharmacy," and the Shop Hours Act will be discussed.

*Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain*, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 11 a.m. Council-meeting.

*Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland*, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 p.m. Council-meeting.

*Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association*, 36 York Place, at 9.15 p.m. Social evening, arranged by Miss Glass, Miss Watson, and Mr. A. McCutcheon, and photographic exhibition.

*Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association*, Robert Gordon's College, at 9.30 p.m. Ordinary meeting.

*Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association*, The Botany School, Pembroke Street, at 9 p.m. Dr. Marshall Ward (Professor of Botany) will give an address to pharmaceutical students and others interested in botany. The new museum of botanical specimens will be on view from 8 p.m.

*Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland*, Garfield Chambers, Royal Avenue, Belfast, at 8 p.m. Smoking-concert and discussion on "Trade Topics."

*Wolverhampton Chemists' Association*, Star and Garter Hotel, at 8.30 p.m. Mr. F. H. Alcock on "Myrrh and its Official Preparations."

### Thursday, December 8.

*West Ham Chemists' Association*, Earlham Hall, Earlham Grove, Forest Gate, E., at 8 p.m. Smoking-concert.

*Nottingham Chemists' Dance*, at Calvert's Café, Long Row. Tickets may be had from Mr. A. Eberlin, 2 Chapel Bar, or Mr. C. F. Carr, 21 Long Row, and other members of the committee.

*Chemists' Assistants' Association*, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., at 9 p.m. Ordinary meeting.

*Cheltenham Chemists' Association*, 19 Promenade Villas, at 9 p.m. Informal meeting for the discussion of interesting subjects.

*West of Scotland College of Pharmacy*, Annual Dance, Prince of Wales' Hall, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, at 8.15 p.m.

*North Staffordshire Chemists' Association*, Roebuck Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, at 7 p.m. Mr. J. Averill will open a discussion on "An Organising Secretary."

### Saturday, December 10.

*Inter-Pharmacy Football League*, Metropolitan v. London College, at Wormholt Farm; Muter's College v. Square.



**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

#### Historical Chemistry.

SIR,—The writer of a review of my book "The Elements of Chemistry" in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of October 29 says :

here and there the history is not so strictly accurate as might be desired. For example, contrary to the impression conveyed by the text (p. 118), Kopp has shown that the dissolving of iron in diluted oil of vitriol is not mentioned at the place where Paracelsus states that "air arises and breaks forth like a wind."

On page 260 of Vol. III. of his "Geschichte der Chemie," Kopp, speaking of the history of hydrogen, says that the older alchemists seem to have had no knowledge of this gas; even Basil Valentine, in the fifteenth century, makes no mention of the production of an air when iron is dissolving in sulphuric acid. Kopp then proceeds thus :

Paracelsus in dem folgenden Jahrhunderte machte zuerst darauf aufmerksam; seine Archidora enthalten die Beschreibung, wie sich Eisen in verdünntem Vitriol auflöst, mit der Bemerkung: "Luft erhebt sich und bricht herfür gleich wie ein Wind."

The reviewer says that my description of Rey's account of the calcination of tin and lead is inaccurate. I represent Rey as trying to prove that "when tin or lead is calcined, particles of air attach themselves to the metal and cause the calx to weigh more than the metal before calcination." The reviewer says :

Rey . . . did not assert that particles of air attach themselves to the metal, but to the calx, during the calcination of tin and lead—a point which made all the difference between his perceiving and his failing to perceive the true nature of the part played by air in the calcination of metals.

In the Alembic Club's translation of Rey's Essay, I read, on page 36 :

This increase in weight [of tin when calcined in air] comes from the air, which in the vessel has been rendered denser, heavier, and in some measure adhesive, by the vehement and long-continued heat of the furnace: which air mixes with the calx . . . and becomes attached to its most minute particles.

The reviewer seems to be justified in his charge of inaccuracy. But, on page 40 of the same translation, I find that Rey, speaking of the calcination of lead in air, says :

Melt it (lead) again and calcine it, you will find it heavier . . . by reason of the condensed air which has united with it, as I have already said.

Rey seems to have regarded the assertions that air mixes with the calx and that air unites with the metal as synonymous. I am sure that anyone who reads the essay carefully will perceive that Rey had formed no clear picture in his mind of the action of air on a metal during calcination. I think I have shown that, in the two examples of inaccuracy given by the reviewer, my history is at least as accurate, perhaps even a little more accurate, than his.

I am, yours obediently,

M. M. PATTISON MUIR.

Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge,  
November 30.

#### Citronella Grass in Ceylon.

SIR,—In your issue of September 10 Mr. Willis, the director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Peradeniya, states that "Maha pangiri" citronella grass is only grown by Messrs. A. W. Winter & Sons at Baddegama. Permit me to inform Mr. Willis, and those of your readers interested in citronella oil, that "Maha pangiri" is more common than Mr. Willis believes to be the case. I have been regularly supplying "Maha pangiri" citronella oil to my customers, which fact may be ascertained from the well-known essential-oil merchants, Messrs. W. J. Bush & Co.,

of Ash Grove, Hackney, London, who have bought this oil from me.

Yours faithfully,

Weligama, Ceylon, November 7. B. SAMARAWEEERA.

#### Metric Proposals.

SIR,—If, as now seems inevitable, the metric system will in the near future be employed in writing and compounding British prescriptions, it may not be inopportune to offer a few suggestions, the adoption of which would in my opinion facilitate its introduction with the least amount of inconvenience or friction :

The sign for the gram should be invariably written (as suggested by Martindale and Westcott) Gm, with a capital G.

Drop the terms and signs denoting 10, 100,  $\frac{1}{10}$ , and  $\frac{1}{100}$ —those only to be employed denoting 1, 1,000, and  $\frac{1}{1,000}$ . This already obtains to a great extent in practice, and we never speak of the height of the mercurial column in the barometer as so many decimetres or centimetres, but as so many millimetres. Then all the denominations for weight required are

Grams

Milligram, mg. (small letters)	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{1000}$
Gram, Gm. (capital G)...	...	...	...	1
Kilogram ...	...	...	...	1,000

The decimal point and cyphers might easily be dispensed with. This, of course, would be optional, but it would be more simple and concise to write  $\frac{1}{10}$  mg, for example, than 0.075 Gm.

For fluids, retain the English system of measuring, instead of adopting the Continental one of weighing. Measuring fluids seems more natural than weighing them, and for small quantities is much more expeditious. It follows that the doses of fluids should be expressed by measure. As prescriptions are nearly always written for one dose or for a definite number of doses, as 8, 12, 16, etc., and as the dose in this country is usually a fluid ounce (two tablespoonfuls),  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce (one tablespoonful),  $\frac{1}{4}$  ounce (two teaspoonfuls), or  $\frac{1}{8}$  fluid ounce (one teaspoonful), and as the nearest convenient approximation to the fluid ounce is 30 c.c., which is officially recognised in the French Codex as two tablespoonfuls, physicians might be recommended to write "ad 30 c.c." instead of "ad  $\frac{1}{2}$  j.", and ad 60, 120, 180, 240, 300, 360, 480, or 600 c.c. instead of ad 3ij.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  vij., 5vij., 3vij., etc. Bottles of 5j., 3ij., 3ss.,  $\frac{1}{2}$ j., and 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, and 20 fluid ounces should be replaced by those of  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{8}$ , 15, 30, 60, 120, 180, 240, 300, 360, 480, and 600 c.c. It is true that the French Codex takes 5 c.c. (55 minimis) as a teaspoonful, thus making a tablespoonful equal three teaspoonfuls, but the English method of repeatedly halving, and making a teaspoonful a quarter of a tablespoonful, seems preferable.

I have read with much interest the discussion at the Pharmaceutical Council on November 2 on the introduction of the metric system into British medicine. There seems a desire to introduce  $\frac{1}{10}$  c.c. (1.7 minim) as a substitute for the minim. The "Extra Pharmacopoeia" advocates  $\frac{1}{10}$  c.c. (about  $\frac{1}{2}$  minim). That a smaller measure than 1 c.c. is required is undeniable. Why not  $\frac{1}{16}$  c.c. which would have many practical advantages? It much more nearly approximates to the minim, as 1 c.c.=16.9 minimis. The new minim might be distinguished by a dash through the "m" (m), and a slight change made in the word by substituting "n" for the final "m" and calling it a "minin." Prescribers might regard it as practically synonymous with the old minim, as  $\frac{1}{16}$ m=17 (nearly), and the dose of tr. nuc. vom., for example, might be given as  $\frac{1}{16}$  to 16= $\frac{1}{16}$  to 1 c.c. The measures of capacity required then would be

Minin (m) ...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{16}$ c.c.
Cubic centimetre (c.c.) ...	...	...	...	1 c.c.
Litre ...	...	...	...	1,000 c.c.

480 minimis would be two tablespoonfuls (30 c.c.).

240 minimis would be one tablespoonful (15 c.c.).

120 minimis would be two teaspoonfuls ( $\frac{1}{2}$  c.c.).

60 minimis would be one teaspoonful ( $\frac{1}{4}$  c.c.).

Some of these proposals are not original. In any case it is probable that the tablespoonful will be made 15 c.c. If these suggestions are adopted, the teaspoonful and tablespoonful will be about  $\frac{1}{4}$  and the minim about  $\frac{1}{16}$  more than at present. It is possible that prescribers would like some simpler way to express a teaspoonful and two tablespoonfuls than  $\frac{1}{16}$  to 60 (or  $\frac{3}{4}$  c.c.) and 30 c.c. respectively, and the familiar  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{3}$  signs might be slightly altered to suit the case; for example, by a small dash across the lower part of the sign (as the figure 4 is

finished off). Then 5 (with dash) would stand for a teaspoonful, or  $3\frac{1}{4}$  c.c., and 3 (with dash) for two tablespoonfuls, or 30 c.c. "Aq. ad 3 viij. (with dash) would be equivalent to "water" to 240 c.c., and "5ij. t. d." (with dash) to 2 teaspoonfuls (or  $7\frac{1}{2}$  c.c.) three times a day.

Yours faithfully,

Wolverhampton, November 28. HENRY FOSTER.

What Herbalists Want.

SIR.—In your report of the meeting of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association we notice that the President of the Pharmaceutical Society made reference to the requirements of herbalists in the proposed Pharmacy Bill. We should like to draw attention to these points, as Mr. Robinson seems to have got hold of the wrong idea. Herbalists do not for one moment wish to have a clause inserted to exempt them in any way from this or any other portion of the measure. What is required by them is that a definition of the words "medical prescription" shall be inserted—namely, "an autograph prescription of a registered medical practitioner," or words to that effect.

Herbalists do not intend to allow the Pharmaceutical Society or anyone else to rob them of the rights and privileges which they have enjoyed by law for nearly two hundred years, without a struggle.

Yours respectfully,

C. BURDEN,

Secretary of the National Association of Medical Herbalists of Great Britain, Ltd.

Worcester, November 29.

The "Daily Mail" on Substitution.

SIR.—I see with surprise the "Daily Mail" is again publishing the last year's slander of chemists, relating to what they are pleased to call a fraud. Surely a chemist can sell what he likes without being dictated to by nostrum-proprietors. I hope all chemists who have been buying the paper in question will do as I intend to do, and not buy any more. A shrinkage of 10,000 or 15,000 copies daily would teach the proprietors to mind their own business.

Yours faithfully,

A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY. (56/57.)

SIR.—There is a great want of combination among chemists, and the manufacturers and advertisers of patent medicines are taking advantage of it. The article in today's "Mail" is an outrageous insult. We have long submitted to the injury of having to provide a shop for the sale of these quack nostrums, but that is no reason why we should submit to the insult. To those who had the misfortune to be served with a "Daily Mail" this morning instead of the paper they asked for, it will be quite plain that the article was published in conjunction with the full-page advertisement of the "They are not just as good" Syndicate. I propose that we chemists form a union to deal with this special kind of company. With combination we could do so very effectually. We have just to inform the patent-medicine manufacturers that we will not stock anything they advertised by such scurrilous methods, and the thing is done.

Bexhill-on-Sea, November 24. J. ELLIOT MCVITIE.

Compromise!

SIR.—A chemist's assistant once threw up his situation rather than approach his employer upon the subject of an increase of salary. The latter person would willingly have consented, but was never asked. Like this timorous assistant, the London Chemists' Association, our Edinburgh friends, and even the President of the Pharmaceutical Society, are now afraid to ask for justice. Surely the services of one qualified director would be no obstacle to Mr. Jesse Boot and others. Less than Clause 7 as it now stands would be useless, and, instead of any compromise, let us fight to the bitter end, at least for our title, and if we fail when the Bill again comes before Parliament, the Pharmaceutical Society ought to relinquish its charter.

Yours faithfully,

O. R. (62/66.)

Letters in Brief.

"LION BRAND" WINES.—A correspondent (52/52) complains that this brand of meat-and-malt wine and quinine-wine made by Needhams, chemists, Huddersfield, is sold by innkeepers and publicans who are agents in Delph, Diggle, Dobcross, Greenfield, Mossley, Micklehurst, and Uppermill. He questions if this is "playing the game."

Legal Queries.

Labels to be marked "Liable" or "Not liable" to medicine stamp-duty should be sent to the Editor in duplicate and with a stamped and addressed envelope for return of the marked ones, if desired.

54/58. N. N.—It has frequently been decided in county courts that a month's notice on either side is the custom in the retail drug-trade. Weekly payment of salary does not affect the matter.

60/5. Photography.—There is absolutely nothing on your petroleum-emulsion label to make it liable to medicine stamp-duty; if there were, the title "Petroleum Emulsion with hypophosphites" and subsequent description would suffice to give you as a chemist the benefit of Exemption 3.

60/22. J. A. H.—The Telephone Co. cannot be expected to pay twice. You had better ascertain whether or not the ground landlord has entered into an agreement with the company, and see if the terms of your lease entitle you to act without consulting him.

55/57. M. D.—A chemist who makes an adequate disclosure on a known, admitted, and approved remedy can advertise the remedy as much as he likes, by handbill or otherwise.

58/65. Anxious.—An unqualified person who uses the description "The Pharmacy" may probably be got at by Section 12 of the 1852 Act, but the Pharmaceutical Society has not taken action in any case that we know of.

61/54. Velox.—A set of false teeth is goods according to the law, and a person who is not a registered dentist may recover the charge for them, but nothing for professional services, as Section 5 of the Dentists Act states that such a person shall not be entitled to recover any fee or charge, in any court, for the performance of any dental operation or for any dental attendance or advice.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

57/15. N. N.—Bookkeeping.—You will find McQueen's "A. B. C. system" good and simple. Write to Mr. McQueen, 60 Lower Addiscombe Road, Croydon, for particulars.

51/73. J. A. H.—Poultry-spice.—The approximate composition of your sample is as follows:

Powdered fenugreek	...	...	1 oz.
Powdered turmeric	...	...	2 oz.
Powdered capsicum	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$ oz.
Powdered linseed	...	...	8 oz.

Mix.

36/11. G. F. G.—Eczema-ointment:

Liq. carbonis deterg.	...	...	5j.
Hydrg. ammon.	...	...	gr. xx.
Petrol. molls.	...	...	5j.

42/14. J. F. K.—Excipient for Tooth-paste.—The sample of toothpaste you send is certainly very good as regards consistency. There is no syrup or honey present, but glycerin appears to have been used in this case. We suggest that you try the following excipient:

Glycerin	...	...	...	3 oz.
Gelatin	...	...	...	2 dr.
Water	...	...	...	9 oz.

Dissolve.

45/21. Litho.—The Lithographic Varnish is a thickened linseed oil. Its purpose is to suspend the various pigments employed in the manufacture of printers' ink. It is prepared by heating linseed oil at a temperature of from 260° to 300° C., but, unlike the boiled oil used by painters, no driers are used in its manufacture.

39/72. H. W.—Sign-marker Ink.—The following formula gives an ink suited for rubber type:

Aniline water-soluble dye	...	5ij. to 5iv.
Distilled water	...	5x.
Acetic acid	...	5ij.
Rectified spirit	...	3ij.s.
Glycerin to	...	3x.

Hoffman's violet is one of the most general dyes used in this ink.

57/45. *Rheumatism*.—The Remedy for Rheumatism which has been very successful depends for its activity on guaiacum. The powder appears to be prepared from guaiacum lozenges.

11/48. *S. K.*.—“Le Journal de Pharmacie et de Chimie” is published at 8 Place de l’Odéon, Paris.

48/10. *P. G.*.—Nit-ointments.—The active ingredient in these preparations is veratrine or stavesacre. A formula was last given in the *C. & D.*, February 7, 1903, page 251, and you will find recipes for nit-ointment in “Pharmaceutical Formulas,” Vol. I.

53/13. *East Anglian*.—The solvent used in “new skin” is probably acetone, but we have not definite information on this point.

39/63. *Pyro*.—(1) Pulv. quassiae is not an advantageous addition to insect-powder if the latter is to be used for the purposes to which it is ordinarily put. (2) Books on Photography.—Jones’s “Science and Practice of Photography,” 5s. (Hilfe); Abney’s “Instruction in Photography,” 3s. 6d. (Low); “The Ilford Manual,” 1s. (Ilford, Ltd.).

40/31. *A. C. M.*.—Book on Bacteriology for beginner.—Pearnain’s “Applied Bacteriology,” 12s. 6d. (Baillière), or Kanthack’s “Practical Bacteriology,” 4s. 6d. (Macmillan). Read also the article on “Bacteriology” in the *C. & D. Diary*, 1902.

38/61. *Rhei*.—Removing Tattoo-marks.—The process is described in “Pharmaceutical Formulas,” Vol. I., and has been given several times in previous volumes of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*.

39/67. *A. McH.*.—There are formulas for liver and kidney medicines in “Pharmaceutical Formulas,” Vol. II., pages 440 and 456.

39/1. *Rex*.—Quain’s “Dictionary of Medicine,” 21s. (Longmans), is the book you want to supplement “Diseases and Remedies.”

32/4. *H. and S.*.—We are unable to find out the publishers of the 6d. “A B C Medical Guide.” Perhaps some reader can help us?

37/38. *X Ray*.—Book on X-ray Work.—Isenthal & Ward’s “Practical Radiography,” 2s. 6d. (Dawbarn), would suit your needs, as elementary knowledge as to batteries, accumulators, and coils is given in the beginning of the book.

38/10. *Jena*.—Making Chlorine Solution on a commercial scale.—This would be most economically done by heating manganese dioxide with hydrochloric acid and passing the gas into water. We are taking it for granted that you do not contemplate setting up chlorine-works as the Weldon process, the Deacon process, the Solvay process, and the electrolytic process would have to be considered in regard to economical working. You will find fuller information on this subject by referring to such works as Thorpe’s “Dictionary of Applied Chemistry.”

37/14. *Transkei* (E. Griqualand)—(1) Washing Photographic Plates.—The process you refer to consisted in changing the water in which the negatives were being soaked fifteen times, extending the time over at least two hours. (2) Your note on the tincture-duty is very interesting.

61/3. *C. K.*.—The packing-material appears to be a vegetable fibre remaining after exhaustion in the distilling-process and subsequent drying; otherwise a waste product peculiar to the industry.

35/68. *J. T.*.—The fee for the Minor examination is 3s. 3s. on each occasion after the first, when 10s. 10s. is the charge.

### Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

57/62. Who are the makers of Little’s Oriental Balm?

60/67. Makers of or agents for Parvaladin.

61/58. Who are the makers of “Fengel,” a morphia-substitute prepared from a Peltivian herb?

60/73. Where can “Evverzine,” for blistering horses, be obtained?

63/32. Who are the makers of “Camphine,” a rectified oil of turpentine?

### Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

#### 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., December 1.

THERE are a few important alterations to report in prices, and in certain articles a fair amount of business has been done. In drugs, values of most staples are unaltered. Chamomiles are dearer, ergot is firm but quiet, and juniper-berries are easier. Norwegian cod-liver oil has been in demand, and already speculative offers of new are in the market. Opium is quiet, Persian being very firmly held. In essential oils, Japanese peppermint is in demand, both for spot and shipment, star-aniseed is firmer, and, dearer rates having been paid for roots at the Indian sandalwood-auction, one leading distiller of the oil has advanced his price. Among chemicals the chief alteration is a substantial advance in bismuth and salts. Carbolic acid has further improved, and benzols and nitrate of soda are dearer. Antimony is firm. Tartaric and citric acids are tending easier, the consumptive demand for both these articles being very quiet. Quinine is almost a dead letter, and refined camphor continues a strong and dearer market, several refiners again asking higher prices. Lithia is also dearer, and it is thought sulphonial may advance. At the vanilla-auction higher prices were paid, and at the quarterly cinnamon-auction values were irregular. Petroleum and turpentine are lower. The principal alterations of the week are as follows :

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Aloin (Amer.)	Acid, carbolic	Acid, tartaric	Cinnamon (fine)
Ammonia sulphate	Antimony Gamboge	Juniper-berries	Nutmegs (W. I.)
Benzols	Menthole (i.f.)	Pepper	Petroleum
Bismuth	Oil, star aniseed (c.i.f.)	(white)	Turpentine
Camphor (ref.)	Oil, star aniseed (c.i.f.)	Quinine	
Cinnamon (lower quals.)	Oil, pepper-mint	(sec. hands)	
Lithia and salts	Pimento		
Soda nitrate			
Vanilla			

#### Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, December 1:—Carnauba wax is firm, and Japanese is quiet at 105m. per 100 kilos. Russian cantharides is also firmer at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. The camphor-refiners have advanced their prices to 625m. per 100 kilos.

NEW YORK, December 1:—Business here is slow. Opium is rather lower at \$2.73 per lb. for druggists’ in case lots. Menthol is weak at \$2.50 per lb. and refined camphor has been advanced to 70c., being 3c. dearer. Kino has advanced by 8c., and Mexican sarsaparilla is easy at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Peppermint oil is unaltered but quiet at \$3.50, and round buchu-leaves are strong at 18c. per lb.

#### Arrivals.

The following drugs, chemicals, etc., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from November 24 to 30, inclusive: Acetanilide, 10; acid, acetic, (@ Fredrikstad) 53 cs. 14 ebs., (@ Rotterdam) 10 blrs.; acid, carbolic, (@ Antwerp) 25, (@ Amsterdam) 65; acid, picric (@ Rotterdam), 100; aloes (@ Aden), 40; albumen (@ Havre), 10; an seed (@ Marseilles), 107; Calabar beans (@ W. C. Africa), 18; cardamoms (@ Marseilles), 19; chamomiles (@ Ghent), 10; cinchona (@ Cochin), 181; coca-leaves (@ Ceylon), 6; cochineal (@ Teneriffe), 45; coriander (@ Madras), 800 in tr.; cream of tartar (@ Bordeaux), 11; cumin-seed (@ Saffi), 10; cream (@ Kobe), 10 cs. and 12 cs. in tr.; guaiacum (@ New York), 36; honey (@ Jamaica), 25 cs.; jaborandi, (@ Maran-

ham) 88, (@ Parnahyba) 36; lime-juice (@ Jamaica), 9 pns.; nux vomica (@ Tellicherry), 140; oil, cod-liver, (@ Christiania) 13 cs. 10 brls., (@ Aalesund) 80, (@ Bergen) 73; oil, peppermint (@ Kobe), 10 cs. in. tr.; oils, essential (@ Messina), 18; quinine sulphate (@ Amsterdam), 125 cs.; roots (@ Bahia), 15; saffron (@ Valencia), 10 cs.; sal ammoniae (@ Amsterdam), 44; senna (@ Tutiocorin), 421 and 128 in. tr.; soda hypersulphite (@ Boulogne), 19; squill (@ Catania), 20; sugar of milk (@ Amsterdam), 10 cs.; tartar, (@ Naples) 23, (@ Messina) 30, (@ Barcelona) 87; vanilla (@ Bordeaux), 18 cs.; wax, bees', (@ Mazagan) 10, (@ Barcelona) 11; wax, cerasin (@ Hamburg), 14; wax, Japanese, 19; wine-lees (@ Bordeaux), 129.

### Heavy Chemicals.

The all-round firm tone in the heavy-chemical market is well maintained, and at all the principal centres a fairly steady trade is being transacted. Shipments are now leaning towards the quieter side, but they are a good average for the time of year.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Ruling quotations are without important alteration from those recently mentioned. Principal products are in fair request, and special mention may be made of high-strength caustic soda, saltcake, ammonia alkali, and soda crystals. Chlorates are well maintained. Bleaching-powder is quiet, with prompt value now practically the same as for next year.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is very firm, and quotations are appreciably higher, with continued tendency towards advancement. Present nearest figures: Beckton 15*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, Beckton terms 12*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 13*l.*, London 13*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, Leith 13*l.*, and Hull 12*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* to 12*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

ALUMINA PRODUCTS. Demand is steady, particularly on home account, and, if anything, contract deliveries are somewhat above the average. The greater portion of next year's requirements has been covered at full prices, and tendency of prices is towards advancement rather than otherwise. Crystal alum, lump, 5*l.* to 5*l.* 5*s.* per ton; lump, in tierces, 5*l.* 5*s.* to 5*l.* 10*s.*; ground, in bags, 5*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.* 15*s.* Sulphate of alumina of purest qualities, and practically free of iron, 4*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.* per ton in casks for ordinary strength, and with customary allowances for bags and loose slabs and usual extras for higher concentration. Alumino-ferric 50*s.* to 60*s.* per ton, and aluminous cake 50*s.* to 55*s.*, according to package, condition, and delivery. Hydrate of alumina, purest quality and high strength Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 12*l.* to 12*l.* 10*s.* per ton in large casks; special pulp hydrate of alumina, dried in lump, 37*s.* 6*d.* to 38*s.* per cwt., and ground 38*s.* to 38*s.* 6*d.*; aluminate of soda, high strength Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 35*s.* to 37*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., and second quality 12*s.* to 13*s.*; carbonate of alumina, 35*s.* to 37*s.* 6*d.*, according to quantity, etc.

### Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, November 30.

ACACIA.—With further sales at steady prices, stocks are very much reduced in first-hands.

CALABAR BEANS.—At auction 10 barrels sold at 3*l* 4*d.* per lb.

CARNAUBA WAX.—Five bags yellow have been sold at 135*s.* per cwt.

CASTOR OIL.—There is rather more inquiry, but only small sales are reported at 2*l* 5*d.* to 2*l* 7*d.* per lb. For shipment, 2*l* 3*d.* is now wanted for December-January. First-pressure French is in small compass, and is offered at 2*l* 3*d.* to 2*l* 2*d.* per lb. on the spot. For shipment, the quotation is unchanged at 20*s.* per ton, f.o.b. Marseilles.

CHILLIES (S. L.).—Eight bags have been sold at 37*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

GLUCOSE (LIQUID).—Owing to the advance in sugar, glucose has been in strong demand, and prices have advanced to 11*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. for Buffalo H. brand.

HONEY (CHILIAN).—Ten barrels of Pile I. have been sold at 25*s.* per cwt.

IRISH MOSS.—Sales of good medium have been made at 22*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

OLIVE OIL.—Reports to hand of the new crop are still very unsatisfactory, and there will be considerable shortage for next year in the lower grades.

QUILLAI-BARK.—The position still continues very firm at 19*l.* 10*s.* per ton on the spot, and considerable sales have been made to the Continent for December-January shipment at present prices.

SENEGA is offered from New York at 2*s.* 10*d.* per lb., c.i.f.

SPERMACETI.—At auction 25 bags crude sold at 45*s.* per cwt., an advance of 4*s.* on the last price paid. North American refined is offered at 10*d.* per lb., c.i.f., which is a slight advance.

SULPHATE OF COPPER is very firm at 22*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton for prompt delivery.

TURPENTINE.—Rather easier at 38*s.* to 38*s.* 3*d.* per cwt.

### German Drug-market.

Hamburg, November 29.

Business in drugs remains inactive, and the changes in prices are comparatively few since last week.

ANTIMONY is very firm, at 30*l* 2*m.* per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR.—Refined is very firm and dearer; 700*m.* is today's quotation. Stocks appear to be only in a few hands.

CASCARA SAGRADA is quiet on the spot; 76*m.* per 100 kilos.

CORIANDER-SEED.—Mogador is quoted 65*m.* per 100 kilos., with little offering.

ERGOT is unaltered at 330*m.* per 100 kilos.

IPECACUANA.—There is little doing. Rio is quoted 10*l* 2*m.* to 11*l* 1*m.*, and Cartagena 10*l* 2*m.* per kilo.

LYCOPODIUM is unchanged at 770*m.* per 100 kilos. for spot delivery.

MENTHOL is inactive, owing to large arrivals; spot is 18*l* 4*m.* per kilo.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Peppermint (H.G.H.) is unchanged at 16*l* 2*m.* per lb., and Japanese is 12*l* 3*m.* per kilo. Star-anise is steady at 12*l* 2*m.* per kilo.

OILS (FIXED).—Castor is quiet, first-pressing in barrels on the spot offering at 42*m.* per 100 kilos. Non-congealing cod-liver oil is quoted 175*m.* per barrel. Chinese wood is quiet on the spot at 49*l* 2*m.* per 100 kilos. Rape and linseed are also quiet.

KHATANY is tending lower, at 65*m.* per 100 kilos. on the spot.

STAR-ANISEED is firmer, at 140*m.* per 100 kilos.

SPERMACETI is also firmer, at 195*m.* per 100 kilos.

SENEGA is tending lower on the spot, at 670*m.* per 100 kilos.

ACID, CARBOLIC, is again firmer at 6*l* 2*d.* per lb. for 39° to 40° C., and 6*l* 4*d.* to 6*l* 6*d.* for 34° to 35° C. Crude 50 per cent. is 1*s.* 11*d.*, 60 per cent. 2*s.* 4*d.*, and 75 per cent. 2*s.* 8*d.* to 2*s.* 9*d.* per gal.

ACID, CHRYSOPHANIC.—Rather more interest is shown in this article, as goa powder has been very scarce for some time past. The product, however, has so long remained under a cloud, the inquiries being occasional, that dealers are sceptical as to whether an advance will take place. The present quotation is from 5*s.* 9*d.* to 6*s.* per lb. There is very little home demand, the bulk being exported.

ACID, PYROGALLIC.—The market is firm, owing to the advance in galls, and this fact has led to the renewal of contracts in several instances. The demand, as usual at this time of the year, is, however, only light, and as stocks in makers' hands are fairly large, it is not anticipated that prices will advance.

ACID, TARTARIC, is very slow of sale, consumers holding off in anticipation of lower prices, crude tartar being easier. English is quoted 11*l* 8*d.* to 11*l* 2*d.*, and foreign 11*l* 4*d.* per lb.

ALOIN.—American has been advanced to 1*s.* 10*d.* per lb., c.i.f.

ANISEED.—An advice from the Continent states that an advance of 2*m.* per 100 kilos. has taken place in the offers from Russia for good quality. In several instances more or less mixed quality is offered cheaper as new crop. It will shortly be impossible to obtain shipments from the interior per water.

ANTIMONY.—In our quotation last week the price paid for Japanese crude should have been 16*l.* 10*s.*, and not 15*l.* 10*s.*, as printed. The quotation of 17*l.* as given in our paragraph still holds good. English *regulus* is 39*l.* to 40*l.* for prompt.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Holders of Maracaibo in second hands ask 1*s.* 7*d.* per lb. for B.P., and for case lots of filtered Maranham 1*s.* 9*l* 2*d.* is quoted.

BISMUTH.—A substantial advance in the price of bismuth and its salts was announced to-day, and, as usual with this article, the advance somewhat startled the market. The price of the metal is now 10*s.*, against 7*s.* 6*d.*, or 33 per cent. higher, and the following are now the quotations for *minimum* quantities of the salts: Carbonate 10*s.* 3*d.*, subnitrate 9*s.* 6*d.*, benzoate 12*s.*, citrate 8*s.* 10*d.*, nitrate crystals 5*s.* 6*d.*, oxide B.P. 13*s.*, salicylate B.P. 9*s.*, oxychlor. 10*s.*, and tannate 9*s.* 6*d.* per lb. The 1-cwt. price is 2*d.* per lb., and the 2-cwt. price 1*d.* per lb. above the foregoing quotations.

CAMPHOR.—A further advance has to be recorded in refined camphor, the prices of which now range from 3*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* per lb. for English bells from refiners. One refiner is selling to his usual customers at 3*s.*, and others ask 3*s.* 3*d.* In second-hands English is offered at 2*s.* 10*d.* to

2s. 10*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. per lb. German refiners are still not offering, but bells in second-hands have been sold at 2s. 10d., and the business in Japanese tablets includes 40 cases at 2s. 8d. per lb. net, sellers now asking 2s. 9d., and importers quote 2s. 10d. c.i.f., for December-January shipment. In the United States refined camphor has advanced a further 3c. to 70c.

CHAMOMILES.—The cultivators in Belgium are asking exceedingly high prices for what little stock is left, the extreme figure of 80s. being mentioned as the price of ordinary No. 1 in the growing districts; on the spot from 56s. to 58s. is quoted for old brown flowers.

CHILLIES.—Quiet but steady in auction, good Nyassaland selling at 41s., fair red at 37s. to 38s., mixed yellow and red 37s. per cwt. Zanzibars were bought in at 50s.

The exports from the British Central Africa Protectorate during 1903-4 amounted to 66,350 lbs. (1,106*1*/<sub>2</sub>), against 58,761 lbs. (979*1*/<sub>2</sub>) during 1902-3. In a report on the Uganda Protectorate for 1903-4 by the British Consul at Entebbe it is stated that the small Zanzibar chillie is in great demand by merchants for export. It grows wild in many parts of the country, particularly in Busoga, where the natives are commencing to cultivate it, now for the first time becoming aware of its commercial value. It commenced to be exported towards the close of the year, and should soon form an important item of trade. Locally it now sells at the rate of 10 lbs. to 12 lbs. for 1s. 4d.

CINCHONA.—The stocks in first-hands in Amsterdam on November 24 consisted of 3,370 packages Government bark and 13,239 packages private bark, these figures including the quantity to be offered at the auction on December 15—viz., 11,607 packages, weighing 1,008,569 kilos. The shipments from Java during November amounted to 1,245,030 Amst. lbs., against 996,000 Amst. lbs. last year and 974,000 Amst. lbs. in 1902. The total shipments for the eleven months now amount to 13,169,000 A. lbs., against 12,525,000 and 12,028,000 A. lbs. in 1903 and 1902 respectively.

CINNAMON.—The usual quarterly public sales were held last Monday, and consisted of 880 bales. With fair competition all except 100 bales of common quality were sold; the finer descriptions being  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1d. per lb. cheaper, and the lower qualities  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. dearer. Worked sold as follows: fine superior at 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. for firsts, 1s. 4d. for seconds, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. for thirds, and 9d. to 9*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. for fourths; good at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d. for firsts, 1s. to 1s. 2d. for seconds, 10d. to 1s. for thirds, and 7*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. to 8*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. for fourths; ordinary at 10d. to 1s. for thirds, and 7*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. to 8*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. for seconds, 7d. for thirds, and 6*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. to 7d. for fourths. Unworked brought, for good, 9*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. to 10d. for firsts, 7*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. to 8d. for seconds, 7d. to 7*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. for thirds, and 6d. to 6*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. for fourths; and for ordinary 8*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. for firsts, 6*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. for fourths, and 6d. for fifths, seconds being bought in at 8d., a bid of 7*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. being refused. Pieces and quillings sold at 7*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. to 8d. per lb. for good to fine.

CLOVES.—At auction 240 bales of Zanzibar were offered, and bought in at 6d. to 6*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. per lb. The delivery-market has been fluctuating, and the sales include October-December at 5*5*/<sub>8</sub>d. to 5*1*/<sub>2</sub>d., January-March at 5*1*/<sub>8</sub>d. to 5*3*/<sub>8</sub>d., and March-May at 5*1*/<sub>6</sub>d. to 5*3*/<sub>8</sub>d. per lb.

COCA-LEAVES.—Fair green Bolivian are quoted at from 11*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. to 1s. 1d. per lb., c.i.f., according to quality, and Truxillo 10*3*/<sub>4</sub>d.

COCHINEAL.—According to the statistics there is now a stock of 190 bags only, whereas four years ago the stock was twelve times that quantity.

ERGOT.—New Russian is quoted 1s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., being firm, and the high prices asked for Spanish prohibit business.

GAMBIER.—Small spot sales of cubes have been made at 55s. per cwt.

GAMBOGE remains very scarce, and for a few cases of fair Siam pipe 19*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. is wanted.

GINGER.—Quiet. At auction 156 barrels of Jamaica were offered, and 86 sold at 37s. for fair bright, fair common at 30s., and 27s. to 29s. for common. The small offerings of Cochin and Calicut were bought in. Privately Japanese for January-February shipment has been sold at 16s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

GLYCEROPHOSPHATES.—The following are the present quotations: Lime 3s. 8d., iron 6s. 11d., magnesia 7s. 6d., and soda 20s. per lb.

GUAIACUM.—The s.s. *Lucania* has arrived from New York with 36 cases.

HONEY.—Italian is quoted 37s. for set white in tins, and for fair white Californian 39s., c.i.f., is quoted.

JUNIPER-BERRIES.—Prices have been rather easier of late, at from 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d. per cwt., according to quantity.

KOLA.—At auction 9 bags of West Indian offered, of which 4 sold at 3*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. for fair dry.

LITHIA.—An advance has taken place in lithia and salts, but the price has not yet been definitely fixed.

MACE.—Steady in auction, 70 packages of West Indian selling at 1s. 6d. for good bold pale, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. for fair, 1s. 2d. for ordinary, and 11*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. to 1s. 1d. for pickings.

MENTHOL.—The c.i.f. price is again firmer, fair sales of Kobayashi for January-April shipment having been made at 7s. 6d., and 8s. is now asked. On the spot 8s. 9d. has been paid for Kobayashi, and resales of the parcels of Yazawa sold in auction last week have been made at 8s. 6d., and 8s. 7*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. has also been paid for this brand. It is reported that orders are in the market for Japanese account at 8s. 9d., c.i.f., for December-February shipment; also the rumour is revived that an export-duty is to be imposed from January 1.

NUTMEGS.—West Indian were in large supply at auction, and the bulk sold at from  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1d. per lb. decline. About 500 packages were sold, but the quality was more or less wormy, and a good proportion consisted of long nuts.

NUX VOMICA.—For Calcutta seed from 9s. 6d. to 10s. per cwt., c.i.f., has been paid for round parcels.

OIL, CADE, is quoted 33s. per cwt., c.i.f., in barrels.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—There is a fairly good demand on the London market, good non-congealing Norwegian offering at 170s. per barrel, and Newfoundland at 160s. To arrive, however, Newfoundland is quoted 130s., c.i.f., and one agent for Norwegian oil talks about 170s. to 175s. for new oil from West Finmarken. Under date of November 26, our Bergen correspondent writes that the cod-liver oil market is quiet, but the stocks of finest medicinal oil are extremely scarce and will probably be exhausted before the new fishing. The quotation for finest new non-congealing oil is unaltered at 165s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 6,902 barrels, against 2,279 barrels at the same date last year.

OIL, TURPENTINE, is lower, the spot price having shrunk by 1s. per cwt., to 36s. 6d. for American.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—*Peppermint* oil is firmer. On the spot fair sales of Japanese dementholised oil have been made at 6s. to 6s. 1*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. for Kobayashi brand, and for shipment the following prices have been paid: October-November 5s. 4d., November-January 5s. 1d., and January-April 4s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., for Kobayashi, and for Yazawa, October-November shipment has changed hands at 5s. American H.G.H. in small lots has been sold at 17s. to 17s. 1*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. spot, and 17s. 3d. is now asked. It would be difficult to buy quantity at these figures. *Tin* oil is unaltered at 15s. 6d. per lb. spot, and for shipment from 15s. 9d. to 17s., c.i.f., is quoted according to brand. Efforts are being made in one quarter to depress the prices of tin oil for account of an American distiller, and in consequence a certain brand has been offered on the spot at slightly below current prices. This has led to a little retaliation on the part of another importer. *Lemongrass* oil is firm, and there has been a fair demand at 7*1*/<sub>2</sub>d., second-hands quoting 8*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. per oz. *Star-aniseed* oil is firmer to arrive at 5s. 2d. per lb., c.i.f.

OPIUM.—The London market is steady, but quiet, with a small business in Persian opium at 12s. 9d. per lb. spot, and 13s. is now asked.

SMYRNA, November 18.—The market is quiet, the sales for the week amounting to only 15 baskets of Karahissar manufacturing opium at 6s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., for account of a local speculator. The sowings have been stopped owing to severe cold weather, and sellers are reserved. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 3,980 cases, against 1,607 at the same time last year. The following are the current quotations: Bogaditz, Balukessar, superior soft slightly, 7s. 3d.; Yerlis, soft, slightly superior, 7s.; manufacturing, 6s. 9d.; Karahissar, superior selected slightly, 7s.; manufacturing slightly, 6s. 6d.; unsightly, 6s. 3d.; current manufacturing, 6s. per lb., c.i.f.

PEPPER.—At auction 35 bags "Gapis" were bought in. Privately a dull market is reported, fair Singapore offering at 5½d. and January-March shipment at 5½d. per lb. White pepper at auction was easier, fair Singapore selling at 9d. and good at 9½d. Siam was bought in at 9d. Privately fair is quoted 9d., and fair Penang at 8½d. per lb.

PETROLEUM has declined ½d. per gal., American water-white now being quoted at 7d., ordinary at 5½d., and Russian at 4½d. per gal.

PIMENTO was firmer at auction, fair selling at 2½d., and low mixed at 2½d. Privately the spot sales include some 500 bags of fair at 2½d., and grey at 2½d. per lb.

POTASHES.—First Montreal are quoted 35s. to 36s., and first American 34s. per cwt.

QUININE.—The speculative market continues in the same apathetic state, and since the bark-shipments have been announced there are sellers of German sulphate in bulk at 10½d. in second-hands. A small sale for March delivery has been made at 11d.

ROSE-PETALS.—French in 1-cwt. bales are quoted 2s. 3d. per lb., e.i.f.

SANDALWOOD.—At the first auctions in Mysore an advance of 5 per cent. took place, but for some qualitics 30 per cent. higher prices were paid.

SELLAC.—The spot market is firm, with a moderate business at full prices, including ordinary to fair Orange TN at 210s. to 232s. 6d. for blocky to cakey, and cakey BO at 240s. Good and fine Orange marks are quoted 240s. to 250s., and A C Garnet at 190s. spot and 175s. e.i.f. Futures have been a dull market. At auction on Tuesday almost a thousand packages were offered, of which about half found buyers at steady prices. Of Second Orange 282 cases offered, and about 200 sold, partly without reserve, including fine pale E and O at 22s. 6d., pale and good Orange block 195s., fair blocky seconds 190s., hard flint ditto 184s. to 186s., ordinary broken matted seconds 180s., and resinous block 162s. Of Button 360 cases offered, of which 100 sold (70 without reserve), including good seconds at from 172s. 6d. to 185s., fair seconds 150s. to 170s., weak blocky seconds 132s. 6d. to 139s., good thirds blocky 125s. to 131s., fair to good thirds 130s. to 145s., weak resinous third blocky 107s., red chocolate blocky 130s., and weak to strong fourths 90s. to 99s. per cwt. Of Garnet 270 cases were sold, without reserve, at steady prices, including AC cakey to blocky at 182s. to 186s., hard cakey to block at 178s. to 180s., hard block at 176s. to 177s., and GAL hard block 171s. per cwt.

SODA NITRATE has advanced a further 3d. per cwt., refined now being quoted 11s. 3d., and ordinary 11s.

STORAX.—Genuine liquid in 4-cwt. barrels is obtainable at 49s. 9d. per cwt.

SUGAR OF MILK.—An advice from the Continent states that quotations for German make have remained unaltered, with a fairly active demand for consumption. Offers of the American product have lately been made, which, although not much lower, may prevent German manufacturers from further increasing their prices.

SULPHONAL.—An advance may take place in this article, but nothing definite was known on 'Change to-day.

TURMERIC.—Small sales of Cochin finger have been made at 14s., and Bengal remains very scarce, both on the spot and for arrival.

VANILLA.—At auction on Tuesday the large supply of 1,200 tins was offered, and, with an excellent demand, practically all sold, good to fine realising an advance of 2s., and common qualities, of which the bulk consisted, were 1s. dearer. The following prices were paid:

Seychelles, fair to good, 8 to 8½ inch, 14s. to 15s.; 7½ to 8 inch, 9s. to 14s.; 7 to 7½ inch, 8s. to 11s. 6d.; 6 to 7 inch, 7s. to 10s. 6d.; 5 to 6 inch, 6s. to 9s.; 3 to 5 inch, 4s. 9d. to 7s. 6d.; common, 3 to 7 inch, 3s. 6d. to 6s.; mouldy, 1s. to 3s. 3d. Fair to good Bourbon, 6 to 8½ inch, 11s. 6d.; 7 to 7½ inch, 8s. 3d. to 11s.; 3 to 7 inch, 6s. to 9s. 6d.; common and mouldy, 1s. 6d. to 6s. 9d. Common Tahiti (10) sold at from 2s. to 4s. 9d. per lb.

WAX, JAPANESE.—For good pale squares 57s. 6d. per cwt. has been paid on the spot.

### German Potash.

The constituents of the German potash syndicate, who recently authorised the directors of the company to adopt rigorous measures with a view to the suppression of the competition of the outstanding potash-works, have now been informed that the board of supervision have resolved, as from January 1, 1905, to reduce the export-prices of the fourth class of salts in order to prevent the non-syndicated works from concluding contracts under the protection of the existing high prices for the export market. It is stated that the reduction will be so large that it will no longer be profitable for merchants to sell the products of the works outside the combination. A five-years' agreement has now been arrived at with the two American fertiliser trusts as a result of the journey of Herr Grassner to St. Louis.

### Tartar-materials.

The following statement of the exports of tartar-materials from the Italian Continent during the period October 1, 1903, to September 30, 1904, has been received from H.M. Consul-General at Naples:

To	Half-refined Argols	Vineacia Argols	Crude Argols	Wine-les	Total
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
U.K.	136½	1,060	150	100	1,380½
Germany	319	—	182	135	636
France	157½	—	10	1,990	2,157½
U.S.A.	7½	864	2,462	100	3,459½
Austria, etc.	52	1,082½	312	1,383	2,830½
Total {	668½	2,977½	3,116	3,728	10,470
Value £	40,100	157,800	152,700	85,800	436,400

### The Aniline-dye Combination.

At the recent general meeting of the Badische Aniline and Soda Works, when it was decided to amalgamate the share capital with that of the Bayer Company of Elberfeld (see *C. & D.*, October 22, page 702), it was stated that the amalgamation was advocated upon the ground that the development of modern conditions of production and of trade rendered increasingly necessary the combination of individual undertakings in the same industry. It was added that this necessity had also manifested itself in the German paint and colour industry. The growth of competition, which threatened in time to bring about an intolerable state of affairs, was responsible for this measure. Moreover, the advance of the protectionist movement in those countries which are the best and largest customers of the German chemical industry would compel the manufacturers more and more to transfer their works abroad in order to meet foreign demand. Considerable uneasiness has been created in the Swiss chemical industry by the spread of amalgamation in the trade in Germany, since it is feared that German competition will become greater and more dangerous by this policy. Efforts are now being made by Swiss manufacturers to attach themselves to the smaller chemical-works in Germany which stand aloof and outside of the movement towards amalgamation, in order that they may be able to encounter the competition of the large German firms on better terms. Several chemical-works in Germany have had to suffer from the effects of the competition which the manufacture of artificial indigo has created, and the war in the Far East has also reacted unfavourably in various directions upon the industry.

### Amsterdam Trade.

In the course of the annual report of the Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce for 1903, it is stated that the arrivals of cassia fistula amounted to 3,820 piculs, or 930 pic. less than in 1902, and 1,110 pic. more remained unsold in stock. The sales of cubeb during 1903 amounted to 648 bales, and for benzoin high prices were again obtained for fine seconds, which was represented by a few parcels only. The middling qualities were only saleable at reduced prices, the quantity changing hands during the year amounting to 840 piculs. Cuba exported large quantities of honey to Amsterdam, in consequence of which prices ruled low during the whole of the year, notwithstanding that the crop of honey failed in Holland. Only brown descriptions felt the influence of this failure, and rose considerably in price. Only very small parcels of Amboyna cloves were imported, in consequence of the failure of the 1902 crop; and of black Lampung pepper, 53,000 bales arrived at Amsterdam, as compared with 40,000 bales in 1902.

## General Medical Council.

IN our report last week brief reference was made to the discussion commenced on the Wednesday regarding the

### PROPOSED REGISTRATION-FEE FOR STUDENTS.

At the meeting in May the Council decided to ask the Lord President of the Privy Council to introduce a Bill to legalise this. The Clerk to the Privy Council in acknowledging this sent copies of letters from the Presidents of



PROF. ARTHUR THOMSON, M.B., who succeeds Dr. Payne representing the University of Oxford.



PROF. A. G. BARR, M.D., Representative for the University of Leeds.

the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons in London, both asking to be heard. Sir W. S. Church, writing for the physicians, said :

From its incorporation to the present time, under the authority of its charter and statutes, this College has determined the conditions of admission to its professional qualifications, and it claims to have faithfully exercised the powers entrusted to it for the public good. It appears to the College that the effect of the proposed measure, so far as it has been made known, would be to transfer to the said Council an important part of this power.

Sir John Tweedy, writing for the surgeons, said :

The passing of such a Bill, without the introduction of restrictions, would probably enable the General Medical Council to lay down conditions of registration, and thus might transfer to that body the right, which this College has exercised for more than a century, of selecting the institutions at which the curriculum of professional study may be commenced by candidates for its diplomas.

Dr. W. W. Merry, Vice-Chancellor of the Oxford University, also wrote to the Lord President asking to be made acquainted with the provisions of the Bill and to afford the Council of the University an opportunity of expressing their views thereon. The Lord President suggested that the Medical Council should confer with the colleges, so as to prepare a scheme which would recognise existing rights. This was the subject which the Council commenced to discuss on Wednesday, November 23, and continued it on the Thursday.

Sir C. Nixon urged that as there are more than two Royal Colleges it would be waste of time to confer with them without eliciting the opinions of the others. Sir J. W. Moore, seconded by Dr. N. Moore, moved that a copy of the May resolution be sent to all the licensing bodies requesting their views on the subject. An amendment moved by Dr. Mackay, seconded by Sir J. Tuke (who said it would be utterly futile to confer with bodies which have already made up their minds), was to the effect that the Privy Council be informed that it is not expedient to confer with the Royal Colleges at present, and that before proceeding further more specific proposals with regard to the Bill be considered by the Council. Sir Victor Horsley was strongly in favour of the amendment, declaring that the Council is the conference. Sir William Thomson and Dr. MacAlister also spoke in support of the amendment, which was eventually carried by 17 to 5, eight not voting. But the members were not all happy about the Bill, foreseeing the difficulty, if not impossibility, of getting it passed in the teeth of the determined opposition of the Royal Colleges, not only of England, but of Ireland.

In the meantime want of money is pressing. Dr. MacAlister and Sir C. Nixon regretted that the other method of raising funds suggested last session (increasing the practitioners' registration-fee from 5/- to 10/-) was not adopted. On the amendment being put as a substantive motion, Sir C. Nixon moved the following amendment :

That a reply be sent to the Privy Council stating that this Council now sees great difficulties from opposition by certain licensing bodies in asking the Lord President to introduce a Bill giving to the General Medical Council statutory power to establish and maintain registers of medical and dental students and to impose a fee not exceeding 1/- for registration therein. The General Medical Council will be prepared at the proper time to offer an alternative proposition which it hopes may be approved of by the Lord President.

The President pointed out that Sir Christopher's motion rescinded the resolution passed last May, which then had his support, but Dr. Bruce said that in the interests of peace it was desirable to take a step back, and Dr. Lindsay Steven added that the Council had learnt much since then—for one thing that the co-operation of the Privy Council is not very hearty. Dr. N. Moore, supporting the amendment, vehemently declared that this power of taxing medical students and giving them nothing in return is one which the Council would never get.

Eventually Sir C. Nixon's amendment came out on top as the substantive resolution of the Council, Sir Victor Horsley strongly dissenting.

### CHEMISTS AND SCHOOL-ABSENCE CERTIFICATES.

Communications were laid before the Council on November 24 from the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association, with a letter from the Education Committee of the Borough of Bootle, in regard to the giving of a medical certificate by a Mr. Proctor Williams, chemist, 123 Derby Road, Bootle, in the case of a girl unable to attend school. The Executive Committee of the Council had replied that the certificate appeared to be invalid under Section 37 of the Medical Act, 1858, and that the Council have no jurisdiction over chemists who gave invalid certificates. The British Medical Association's committee had replied that the issue of such a certificate, by a person not registered as a medical practitioner, is, in their opinion, an infringement of the privileges of registered medical practitioners, and a fraud upon the public.

At Sir V. Horsley's request the matter was considered while the Council's legal adviser was present, so that an opinion might be obtained as to what can be done to protect the public and the profession. Dr. Bruce said there is nothing in the Education Acts to demand that the certificate should be a medical one, and Dr. MacAlister stated that the matter does not come within the Council's jurisdiction. Dr. Windle said that the majority of educational authorities do not consider it necessary that a certificate exempting a child from attending school should be signed by a registered practitioner. Then followed quite a long discussion which Sir Victor Horsley sarcastically wound up by saying he had heard enough amateur opinions : what he wanted was

### A PROFESSIONAL OPINION.

This Mr. M. Muir Mackenzie asked to be allowed to submit in writing, which he did next day in the following terms :

The effect of Section 37 of the Medical Act, 1858, is, in my opinion, as follows:

It imposes a statutory duty and obligation on any public body which by statute is required in specified cases to be furnished with a certificate by a medical practitioner, not to accept a certificate by an unregistered person, or such a person as a chemist.

The Act imposes no penalty or punishment on a public body which in contravention of the enactment does, in cases in which a certificate of a registered practitioner is thus prescribed by the Statute, accept the certificate which the Acts say it shall not accept, nor does it make a contravention of the enactment a misdemeanour.

Consequently, neither the General Medical Council nor any individual could by summary proceedings before a magistrate, or by indictment, or by an action, bring such a public body before a Court of Justice with a view to secure the observance by that body of its statutory duty and obligation, and prevent the enactment from being contravened or evaded.

In the same way neither the General Medical Council nor any individual could by summary proceedings, action, or indictment, bring an unregistered person who gave certificates which come within the enactment before a Court of Justice, so as to prevent the further contravention of the enactment by him.

If, however, a public body whose duty it was under the combined effect of the statutes to accept only the certificates of registered practitioners were systematically, and to such an extent as to create a public mischief and injury, to ignore and violate the enactment by accepting certificates of chemists and unregistered persons, my opinion is that the Attorney-General would have power to take proceedings by action against the public body to compel it to observe the provisions of the Act of Parliament and prevent them from being contravened. Such an action would, if a sufficient case were made out, be taken in the name of the Attorney-General on the relation (as it is called) of some public body or individual, who would have the practical conduct of the proceedings. It is possible also, but not I think probable, that a case might arise in which compliance with the Statute might be enforced by a *mandamus*.

I ought to point out, however, that I do not think that any precedent for the institution of such an action by the Attorney-General exists, excepting the proceedings which were successfully taken on the relation of the Council against the General Council of Safe Medicine. There was also a case in which some proceedings to prevent a violation of Section 36 were contemplated and proposed; but I think that actual proceedings turned out to be unnecessary, and were not commenced.

If a public body which is not required by statute to have a certificate signed by a medical practitioner chooses under its own regulations to accept certificates of chemists, unregistered persons, and others, there is not, in my opinion, any existing power to prevent such a body from so doing, and no legal proceedings could be successfully instituted against such a public body or against the giver of the certificate, provided that the latter did not in the certificate contravene the provisions of Section 40 of the Act, by which a false assumption of medical titles is prohibited.

A copy of this was directed to be sent to the British Medical Association. The President said that a letter had been received by the Registrar from Mr. Bremridge, Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, stating that as the name of Proctor Williams is not on the official register, he could not be described as a chemist and druggist. Sir Victor Horsley said he knew that, also that the man had disappeared and the police were after him, but he had not thought it relevant to state that.

#### PENAL CASES.

The case of Herbert Du Cane, L.S.A., Bolton Road, Darwen, summoned to answer the charge of having abused his position as a medical man by committing adultery with Mrs. Taylor, a patient, was postponed till next session. Mr. Ellis Griffith, M.P., who appeared for the accused, stating that Mr. Du Cane did not receive the Council's notice, which was cabled to Australia to him, till November 7.

[The case Taylor v. Taylor and Du Cane was heard in the Divorce Court on Friday, November 25, terminating in a decree *nisi* and 100/- damages.]

R. H. Darwent, L.R.C.P. & S.E., L.F.P.S.G., Newington, Hull, was charged with abusing his position as a medical man by committing adultery with Mrs. Spink, a patient, of which he was found guilty in the Divorce Court in October, 1902. The case took up a great deal of time last session, when Mr. Muir, counsel for the defendant, obtained its postponement. A further adjournment was asked on the ground that Mr. Muir was engaged on the Hooley-Lawson case. The Council, however, proceeded and did not take long to order defendant's name to be erased from the register.

Robert Evans, L.R.C.P.E., M.R.C.S. Eng., Homerton, N.E., was summoned to appear for having employed an unqualified assistant. The complaint was lodged by Mr. Coroner Westcott. Mr. Evans was present, accompanied by his solicitor, Mr. Marpole. The Council's solicitor read the letter received from Mr. Westcott, and the depositions, which showed that an infant had been seen, and the mother advised and given medicine for it three times, by Mr. Williams in the absence of Mr. Evans. The child died. At the inquest the Coroner commented severely on Mr. Williams, saying that he was liable to prosecution under

the Apothecaries Act. The jury, however, returned a verdict of death from natural causes, and blamed no one. Williams, who had been with Mr. Evans two years, was a medical student. Mr. Evans, examined, said that he had dismissed Williams and intended only to employ a qualified assistant in future. Evidence as to Mr. Evans's high character was given, and the Council, after considering the case, found that the facts were not proved to their satisfaction, and therefore his name will remain on the register.

#### THE FIVE-YEARS' CURRICULUM.

On Thursday Dr. Lindsay Steven brought forward the following motion, which was debated on Friday :

That it be remitted to the Education Committee to consider and report to the next Session of Council whether the adoption by the Council of one or other or both of the following resolutions would not help to secure the attainment of the object the Council had in view in instituting the five years' curriculum, viz.: (1) That the Preliminary Scientific examination in physics, biology, and chemistry should be passed before the student begins the qualifying study of anatomy and physiology. (2) That before being admitted to the Final examination the student should produce evidence that he has devoted the last year of his curriculum exclusively to practical and clinical work and study.

Dr. McCall Anderson, in seconding, said that one of the main sources of evil is the overloading of the medical curriculum, and the motion proposed a remedy. Dr. Norman Moore supported the motion, saying that it followed precisely the regulations of the Royal Colleges. Dr. Mackay, while sympathising with the motion, was afraid it was impracticable; and Dr. Windle pointed out that it would mean a six years' curriculum. The motion was carried.

A motion introduced by Mr. Brown recommending that the six months' pupillage laid down in the Council's resolution of 1893 be extended for a year, and the hospital-work cut down proportionately, and that the former be taken earlier in the curriculum, did not find favour, only Mr. Jackson and Dr. Bruce supporting him.

#### THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The consideration of the report of the Education Committee, brought up on Saturday by Dr. Windle (who succeeds Sir John Tuke as Chairman), centred on the proposals for a school certificate for England, submitted to the Council by the Board of Education. There was some crossing of swords between Dr. Windle and Sir Victor Horsley, the latter being anxious to give the Board more explicit instructions, to establish a single examination all over England, and moving a resolution to that effect. Dr. Windle said that is impossible. Sir Victor only found three supporters, and the Committee's resolutions were, after slight modification, adopted. These encouraged the Board of Education, and stated that the Council would recognise the examination if it is generally accepted by universities for matriculation.

#### UNWELCOME CRITICISMS.

A long debate took place on Saturday, and was continued on Monday, over the report of the Examination Committee on the report of the Visitor and Inspector (Sir George Philipson and Mr. Bryant) of the Final Examinations of the University of Edinburgh, who made some sweeping criticisms. As the President of the Council is the Principal of the University, and seven of its graduates are members, considerable feeling was roused. It was thought,



MR. EVANS.

as the President said, that a blow had been struck at the honour of Edinburgh as a great teaching and examining body. Sir J. Tuke moved, as an amendment of the motion, that the report be received and entered on the minutes, that the remarks complained of be omitted, maintaining that the Visitor and Inspector had exceeded their commission. Dr. McVail, however, put his foot down on that by declaring that the report must go to the Privy Council, and not be tampered with in any way whatever. The report was accordingly entered on the minutes. Speaking for its adoption, the President maintained that the report had not been made in accordance with the standing orders, and that charges should have been supported by individual examples. He repudiated the statement made that the Edinburgh students are only book-trained, he did not know of any university where more time and labour are spent by the staff in instructing the students. Many of the speakers felt the difficulty, as Dr. Pye-Smith expressed it, of disentangling the President of the Council from the Principal of the Edinburgh University. Dr. Pye-Smith urged that criticism should be welcomed, that the Universities of London, Oxford, and the Royal Colleges had profited by strictures passed on them, and the fact that Edinburgh is so much respected makes it the more desirable that any deficiency should be removed. Sir J. Moore also thought that criticism should be taken with a good grace. If it were not allowed, visits of inspection would become a dead letter. This appeared to be the general opinion, and ultimately it was agreed that a further inspection be made of the surgical part of the Final examination in the University of Edinburgh, the report being in the meantime hung up.

The reports of the Examination Committee on the inspection of the Final examinations of the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, and the Universities of Glasgow, Aberdeen, and St. Andrews were adopted after some little discussion.

#### THE PHARMACOPOEIA.

In presenting the following report on Tuesday, November 29, Dr. MacAlister regretted the death of Mr. Chataway, a promising career being thus cut short. He referred with satisfaction to the coming International Pharmacopoeia, the feeling in favour of which was brought to a head by the Brussels conference.

From May 25, 1904, to November 22, 1904, the sales of the British Pharmacopoeia (1898) were 705 copies, and of the Addendum (1900) 99 copies. Thus up to November 22, 35,902 copies of the Pharmacopoeia and 4,393 copies of the Addendum (including the Government of India edition) have been sold. The stock remaining in hand of the Pharmacopoeia is 1,128 copies, and of the Addendum 2,001 copies. It will, therefore, probably be necessary to print a fresh issue of the Pharmacopoeia before next November.

The committee recorded their grateful sense of the services of Dr. Payne, especially in relation to the formation and arrangement of its library of reference. Dr. Norman Moore has now undertaken the charge of the library.

The committee have received with satisfaction a communication from the Privy Council, respecting the proposed agreement on the subject of international uniformity in the pharmacopelial preparations of potent remedies. That so large a measure of approval should have been accorded to the agreement by the signatory national authorities is a matter of congratulation. It indicates that the proposals of the International Conference at Brussels have been deemed by the Governments of Europe and America to be both desirable and practicable. The committee will naturally keep in mind the terms of the agreement when they undertake the revision of the Pharmacopoeia of 1898.

The committee have been placed in communication with the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and through the Privy Council with the Government of India, on the subject of the drugs and preparations sanctioned for Indian and Colonial use in the Addendum of 1900. A paper of inquiries has been drawn up bearing on the question of the ultimate inclusion of these and other articles in the Imperial Pharmacopoeia, and this paper has, by the courtesy of the Secretaries of State, been brought to the special notice of the various administrative authorities of the Empire. It is confidently expected that the replies to these inquiries will be of the greatest service to the committee at a later stage of their work on the Pharmacopoeia.

The reference in the foregoing is to a letter from the Privy Council accompanying a letter from Count de Lalaing, Belgian Minister at St. James's, which accompanied a table, brought up to May 1, giving replies made by various countries concerning the proposed agreement on the subject of the

uniformity of the formulae of heroic medicaments. Nineteen countries sent replies, which are subjoined:

The German Government is not able to sign the proposed arrangement without reserve, the regulations to which the pharmacies are at present subjected not allowing of any agreement being made regarding the text of the future Pharmacopoeia. The Government fully appreciates the importance of the Brussels conference; it will use its influence to induce the Federal Council to accept the proposals contained in the proposed agreement, when the German Pharmacopoeia is revised.

England approves, with the reservation of slight modifications which the progress of medical and pharmaceutical sciences may render necessary from time to time.

Austria approves, except for medicines which are not contained in the Austrian Pharmacopoeia: *Tuber aconiti*, *tinctura aconiti*, *tinctura hyoscyami*, *tinctura opii benzoica*, *acidum hydrocyanicum*, *sodii arsenas*. With regard to "opium pulvis," the sale of the drug containing a maximum of 12 per cent. morphine only to be allowed.

Bulgaria, Denmark, and Spain approve.

United States. The Government would be willing to give its adhesion in principle, but it cannot give its official consent to the proposed agreement, as the United States Pharmacopoeia is being revised by a committee over which the Government has no control.

France, Greece, and Hungary approve.

Luxemburg approves, but the adhesion of the Grand Ducal Government will not be carried out until the decisions of the Conference are inserted in the German Pharmacopoeia, which is adopted in Luxemburg.

Italy, Norway, Holland, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Sweden, and Switzerland approve; Sweden with the following reservations: The denominations of the heroic medicaments proposed shall not be inserted in the text of the Swedish Pharmacopoeia, but given in a special supplement. The name "vinum glycyrrhizae opiatum" to be reserved. Tinctures not to be prepared by percolation.

Dr. N. Moore, in seconding the adoption of the report, spoke of the enormous and quite exceptional labour bestowed by Dr. MacAlister, and the diplomatic skill with which he had carried through all the negotiations. He had earned the warm thanks of both the committee and the Council. Dr. Moore formally moved a vote of thanks to Dr. MacAlister and also to Dr. Payne, which was seconded by Dr. Little and carried unanimously.

#### THE COUNCIL'S FINANCES.

The report of the Financial Relations Committee presented by Dr. Pye-Smith referred to the 1,000/- received from the builders next door for concessions made to them as something of a windfall, which is to be applied to the reduction of the mortgage. Necessary funds are to be borrowed from the Pharmacopoeia account. Dr. MacAlister, being asked if he had any objection, said he had none, but he foresaw that for the revision of the Pharmacopoeia a few years hence he would have to borrow from the Council. The report was adopted.

#### DENTAL COMPANIES.

The committee of the Medical Companies Bill has been considering a communication from the Privy Council respecting limited companies for the practice of dentistry. The report was presented by Mr. Toomes, and seconded by Dr. Ball. The matter was the outcome of the action taken by the Council last session in consequence of the judgments in two Irish cases. The Board of Trade now hold that titles which are calculated to deceive the public into supposing that they will receive treatment by persons possessed of special skill in medicine or dentistry would disentitle a company to registration. The committee feel, however, that the mere avoidance of a title is not going far enough. Moreover, the interpretation is not retrospective; a number of companies are already registered, and companies may have an unlimited existence. A case is now being tried to contest the right of companies already registered to use titles which may tend to deceive the public, and the result will be of great importance. The committee in their report drew up a letter to the Privy Council pressing the matter further, and this the Council endorsed by adopting the report. The following is the draft of the letter:

The General Medical Council beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of October 21, and to express their satisfaction that the legal advisers of the Board of Trade concur with the judgment of Chief Baron Palles, and hold that titles which are calculated to deceive the public into supposing that they will receive treatment by persons possessed of special skill in medicine or in dentistry, would disentitle the company to registration.

This is, so far as it goes, a step in advance, for hitherto it would appear that Registrars did not consider this any part of their duties, but that they were called upon to register any company under any title so long as the formalities of the Acts were complied with.

But it is, at best, a very partial remedy for the evils which have been from time to time pointed out by the General Medical Council as arising from company incorporation, as is indeed indicated in the last two paragraphs of your letter, in which it is pointed out that, if it takes a title to which objection is not taken, a company may take powers in its objects or in its memorandum of association, to conduct medical or dental practice without its being restricted to the employment of duly qualified persons.

The inadequacy of the mere avoidance of a title containing objectionable phrases as a protection against the evils complained of is further illustrated by the parliamentary return of companies registered for the "specific purpose of conducting medical or dental practice," obtained from the Board of Trade at the instance of Sir John Tuke. A cursory examination of the pages of a single medical journal for three years (the "British Medical Journal") discloses the names of no less than seven medical companies, the proceedings of which have been condemned in the medical Press, and one of which has on several occasions been subjected to severe comment in the findings of coroners' juries. Owing to the limitations imposed by the words "for the specific purpose" in the parliamentary return, not one of these companies appears in that list. Similarly, nine companies which have been the subject of comment in the general Press within the last two years are absent from the Board of Trade list, whilst a number of dental companies, formed immediately after conviction by persons who have been prosecuted and convicted under the Dentists Act, are also absent from the list.

It therefore becomes necessary to ask the attention of the Lord President to a brief statement of the facts as they appear to the General Medical Council.

We believe the objects of legislation in regard to company formation to have been essentially financial, so that due protection should be afforded to legitimate financial enterprise, and that the incorporation of companies for purposes other than this was not contemplated in the Acts. In support of this view we may recall the circumstances attendant upon a previous attempt at legislation. In 1899 we were so far successful in demonstrating the existence of a crying evil that a short Bill was introduced in the House of Lords, the object of which was to render companies equally liable with individuals to the provisions of the Medical and Dental Acts. This Bill was, by Committee of the House of Lords, placed as two clauses in the Companies Acts Amendment Bill then before the House. From this Bill the two clauses were expunged in the Committee stage in the House of Commons, after the Standing Committee on Trade had decided by a considerable majority to retain them. They were dropped out on the ground that they were not germane to the general tenor of the Bill, the objects of which were financial.

We contend and believe that we have fully established that these medical and dental companies for the most part have been incorporated for purposes quite other than financial; indeed in a large majority of them the subscribed capital is merely nominal, and is the smallest amount which will comply with the requirements of the Acts—namely, about eight pounds. Moreover, circulars have been sent out by company agents, recommending company incorporation as a means of evading the prohibitory clauses of the Medical and Dentists Acts—an example of such a circular being appended to this report.

It is therefore evident that some other object has been in view in their incorporation, and we proceed to point out its presumptive nature.

A limited company appears to be in a different position from an individual in two principal respects. It has been able to make use of titles prohibited by the Medical and Dental Acts without being, as an unqualified individual would have been, liable to prosecution and fine. By the new interpretation which has been placed upon the duties of the Registrars of companies, this may be to a considerable extent remedied in the case of future companies, though, as already indicated, their freedom to put anything into the memorandum of association, or into the objects for which the company is formed, weakens the protection to the public thus afforded, and encourages methods of evading existing statutes.

Beyond this, and of equal or greater importance, is the avoidance of any personal responsibility; and it has already been pointed out that some of the companies whose conduct has been the most flagrant have already avoided putting anything into their title which would bring them into the Board of Trade return.

The servants of such a company may be, and have been, by means of lectures, pamphlets, advertisements, etc., placed in such a position that the public is led to suppose that they will receive skilled medical or dental treatment at their hands, and they may display ignorance or commit malpractice, and even be censured by a coroner without any legal remedy being available against them. They are the irresponsible agents of an irresponsible company. The company itself has

committed no offence known to the law, and so a protection is afforded to unqualified persons actually greater than that enjoyed by the qualified practitioner, who is required to possess reasonable knowledge, and to have exercised reasonable care and skill. Instances can be cited, if necessary, in support of this proposition.

The General Medical Council therefore express the hope that the Government will take such steps as may be necessary to prevent the provisions of the Medical and Dental Acts being evaded by persons improperly taking advantage of the provisions of the Company Acts. And the General Medical Council will, if it is desired, be prepared at the proper time to furnish detailed evidence in support of the propositions which they have advanced.

#### THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

After the consideration of some formal and academic matters, the Council went into camera for an hour and a half to consider the election of the new President, Sir William Turner having expressed the wish to retire. On the public being re-admitted, Sir William from the chair briefly expressed his thanks to the members for all the kindness, sympathy, and support he had met with in the discharge of his presidential duties. Sir Patrick Heron-Watson, after speaking with the greatest regret of Sir William's retirement, and of the dignity, efficiency, and kindness with which he had occupied the chair, proposed as his successor one who, he said, possessed the same keenness of mind, resolute purpose, high moral principle, and self-restraint, and who well merited their regard and esteem—Dr. Donald MacAlister. Dr. Pye-Smith warmly seconded the remarks with regard both to Sir William and to Dr. MacAlister. Dr. MacAlister was thereupon, amid applause, called into the room and inducted into the chair. He briefly expressed his thanks.

Very little business was transacted under the new President on account of the lateness of the hour; three motions being postponed till next session. It was agreed, on the motion of Sir John Tuke, that legal advice be asked whether it rests on the Council to forward the reports of the Visitors and Inspectors of the Privy Council in their entirety, irrespective of what they may contain. The session then terminated.

PAGLIANO SYRUP has for some years been the subject of litigation between the firm of Professor Girolamo Pagliano, Florence, and that of Ernesto Pagliano, Naples, each considering itself the sole legal successor to the late Professor Girolamo Pagliano, who in 1838 made the syrup and amassed a fortune from it. The Courts have now finally decided that both manufacturers may call their preparation "Pagliano syrup."

MR. GEO. F. MERSON, F.C.S., pharmaceutical chemist, who since he disposed of the North of England School of Pharmacy, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has had charge of Messrs. Wilkinson & Simpson's laboratories there, is on January 2, 1905, to enter on the managership of Messrs. Rankin & Borland, retail and wholesale chemists and mineral-water manufacturers, and of Messrs. Rankin & Co., manufacturers of medical and other specialities, Kilmarnock. Mr. Merson served his apprenticeship with the late Mr. George Burnet, of Fraserburgh, and although he has spent the greater part of his business-life south of the Border, he has always been faithful to the North British Branch, and his return to the auld countree will, it is felt, strengthen Scots scientific pharmacy, especially on the West Coast. The position which he is now to fill is an important one, and a fair number of the younger generation of pharmacists aspire to it.



## Metropolitan College of Pharmacy.

THAT much-looked-forward-to pharmaceutical event, the annual dinner of this College, took place in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on Saturday evening, November 26. Sir Joseph Wilson Swan, D.Sc., F.R.S., presided, and among those present were Colonel J. S. Young, Colonel G. Grant, Surgeon-General W. G. Don, Dr. E. Divers, F.R.S., Mr. R. Henderson, C.B., Dr. F. B. Power, Dr. W. Harrison Martindale, Messrs. Thomas Tyrer, D. Cameron-Swan, G. Claridge Druce, W. Lamond Howie, J. W. Bowen, J. C. Umney, T. Maben, Peter MacEwan, W. S. Glyn-Jones, F. A. Rogers, C. A. Hill, H. S. Collins, A. E. Holden, F. Bascombe, S. W. Woolley, C. T. Bennett, W. Philip Want, H. Hickey, Sidney Jamieson, and J. Gordon Nicholson. Sir Joseph is a direct descendant of "a man of the Cameron clan," so the Highland accompaniments inaugurated by Mr. Watson-Will last year, in honour of Sir William Ramsay, were repeated this year by request of the venerable Chairman. Once more the company filed in in the wake of Pipe-Major Smith, with bagpipes at full blast. The haggis was "played in" to loud applause, and the Celtic toast was received with the same bewildered complacency.

An excellent dinner over, the Chairman gave the toast of "The King" in a speech reminiscent of old Chartist days, when England was not so loyal as now, and when high treason was a common offence. In proposing "The Metropolitan College of Pharmacy" Sir Joseph delivered the following speech on

### QUALIFICATION IN PHARMACY :

In wireless telegraphy there is a principle known as tuning, which has the effect of limiting the message to a particular set of receivers. I should like to utilise that principle now, so that what I am about to address to those who have received (or are about to receive) medals and certificates might only be heard by them. Failing this, I must ask you who are not of that group to shut your ears, or to take what I say as a stage aside.

I am glad of this opportunity of meeting so many of the students, new and old, of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, and of being in the position to congratulate those who have received awards of medals and certificates in recognition of the distinction with which they have passed through their examinations. I congratulate them with all the more heartiness and with all the more pleasure because I know how important a bearing these results must have on their future career, in opening lines of progress in life that otherwise would have been closed to them; and because I know the priceless value of the training and mental culture that must of necessity have led up to this success. I am glad to know that the students of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy are so uniformly successful, and that this success is not obtained by means of cramming; but that the scheme of instruction, as stated by the Principal, has for its object "the drawing out of the candidate's powers, the systematisation of his knowledge, the intelligent exposition of principles, and the methodical classification of facts." This ideal programme implies much more than the limited aim of passing an examination: it implies mental development, mental culture, and a truly educational process.

Seeing the smallness of the provision—even the non-existence of provision through the ordinary channels of education—for the special wants of the student of pharmacy, I feel that we are deeply indebted to the initiative which has led to the founding of the School of Pharmacy by the Pharmaceutical Society, of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy by Mr. Watson-Will, and other schools of pharmacy. By these means London is no longer in a condition of destitution in regard to pharmaceutical education. Speaking of education in pharmacy in England, I am reminded of an interesting account, which I daresay many of you have seen, in a recent issue of the "Pharmaceutical Journal," of pharmaceutical education in Holland. It appeared in the issue of November 12. The article opens with this paragraph:

To qualify as a chemist in Holland requires considerably more time and much more money than in England. Both

time and money, however, are very well spent, for once he has obtained his diploma the Dutch chemist has, under ordinary circumstances, a good position secured for life.

This surely must make the causes, which eventuate in this result, interesting. In this article one sees the great contrast there is in the treatment of this most important matter in Holland and in England. Here you have no compulsory preparation for the subsequent purely technical course of study. There the student, before he can enter a university where pharmacy is taught, must have spent five or six years on a very thorough course of general education; and then, after that, he must enter a university and spend another five or six years in the acquirement of the special knowledge demanded of a Dutch chemist. The university course is a most comprehensive one, and it winds up, after a two years' practice in dispensing in a model chemist's shop, with an examination that lasts a fortnight, and an exhibition, during several days, of technical knowledge and skill in all the processes of practical pharmacy. You, who may perhaps have been inclined to murmur a little at the stiffness of your two days' examination and the probing of the examiner to detect your weak spots, may feel consoled by comparing your ordeal with that of the Dutch student before he can blossom out as a chemist.

The difference in the ultimate position of the English and Dutch chemist is equally great. Whereas the English chemist must be, or usually is, if not a jack-of-all-trades, at least—to put it emphemistically—a versatile man of business, able to deal with many things extraneous to the pursuit of pure pharmacy, to be successful he must be a man of resource, a man such as I once had graphically described to me by the inventor of the steam-hammer—my friend James Nasmyth. He said he would not give a button for a man who could not bore a hole with a saw and saw a plank with a gimlet. That is the sort of man, given education (at the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy) to succeed as a British pharmacist. In Holland the "apothek" does only one thing, and that is the making and dispensing of medicines from the Latin prescriptions of the medical man; and so strict is he—or was forty years ago, as I know by personal experience—that you cannot (or could not then) buy even the simplest drug or chemical except through the medium of the orthodox Latin prescription.

I do not know how far the popular practice of photography and the chemical wants created by the Kodak Co. may have altered the old state of things, but from what I read in the article I have referred to, I should think that the Dutch apothek still pursues his calling in the cli rigorous spirit of eclecticism that I have described, and this discloses a widely different state of things from that which obtains in our too free-and-easy country.

I have no occasion to draw the other picture: you are all familiar—some will think too familiar—with it: but I will just give one other point of difference. It is this. In each of the four universities of Holland pharmacy and all the branches of learning bearing on it are taught in this thorough manner, and at the head of the chemical department of the Amsterdam College there is one of the greatest of living chemists, Professor Van't Hoff, whose fame is world-wide. That is how pharmacy is dealt with in Holland.

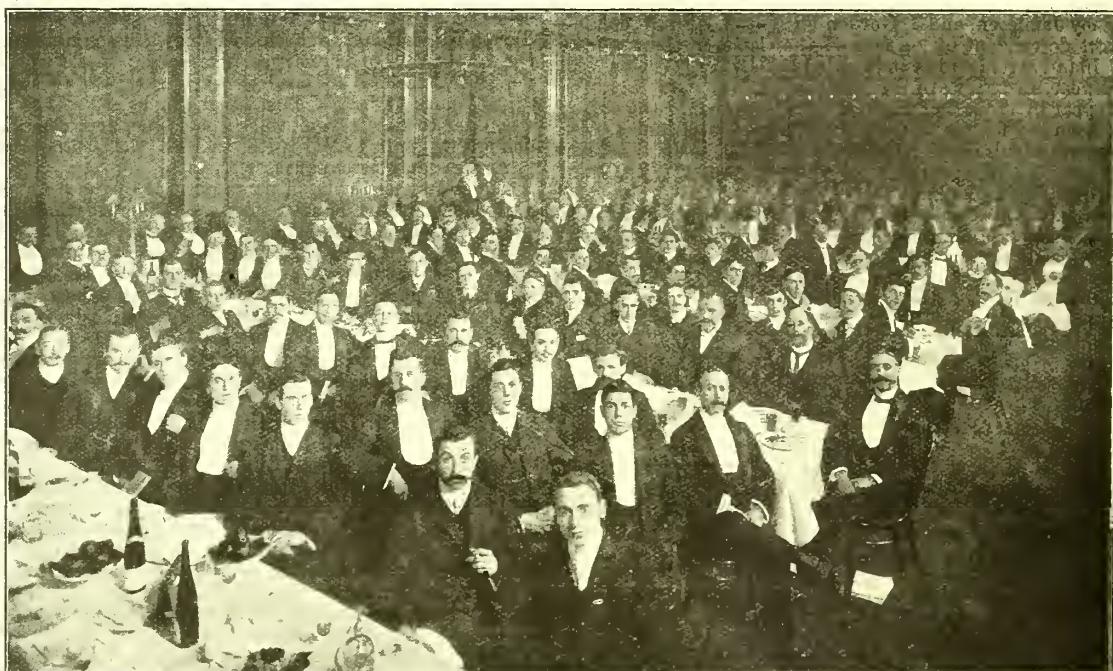
The one serious thing about the heterogeneity of the ordinary British chemist's business in which pharmacy usually forms a greater or smaller part, is the danger of mistakes which must inevitably attend the distracting interruptions and interferences incidental to the simultaneous and contiguous transaction of other unconnected business. I shudder to think of the risks run under some of the ordinary conditions of dispensing; and then to think of the added danger arising from badly written prescriptions, where, some important word being quite illegible, the only resource is to read between the lines. And here comes in with effect the advantage of such a training as you have had at the M.C.P., where, as I read, there are in your museum 3,000 manuscript prescriptions, and in the prescription-reading room there are other 4,000. Really this elaborate lesson in the art of deciphering Latin or a mixture of English and Latin ought not to be necessary. The only excuse for it is tradition. I speak of what used to be, in the days when there were only the typical coloured bottles in the chemist's window, and not the smallest vestige of

chemical apparatus except the mortar and pestle. Perhaps now it is somewhat different, and that state of things has been partly swept away by the current of general progress. I hope so, but I hope with a lurking fear.

To give a practical turn to the reference I have made to the enviable position of pharmacy in Holland. It seems to me that so radically to change the position of the British pharmacist as to make it exactly like that of the Dutch pharmacist is out of the question—it would involve too many and too great changes. But some degree of approach towards the position of the Dutch pharmacist in regard to a reasonable amount of legal security against the dangerous competition of the unqualified, such as would increase the public safety and at the same time give fair compensation for the cost—mental and monetary—of adequate pharmaceutical education, ought not to be out of the question.

due to the fact that he had a staff who knew their work. In various parts of the world old Metropolitan students were celebrating the occasion; he had telegrams of good will from all parts of the country, and one from Merton stated that a supper was being held in a *café* in honour of the occasion. Sir William Ramsay wrote regretting inability to be present to congratulate Sir Joseph Swan and to propose his health, which he desired nevertheless. Mr. Watson-Will then congratulated Sir Joseph on the honour done to him by the King. It reflected credit on his Majesty, and it was an honour done to science itself. ("Hear, hear," and much applause.)

The certificates and medals to the successful students were then presented by the Chairman, who had a few cheery words of encouragement and commendation for each recipient. The medallists for the session were as follows :



A picture of the King's Hall during the dinner, taken with flashlight by Messrs. Fradelle & Young. The night was so foggy that Sir Joseph Swan said the result was bound to be interesting. Hence we give it with all the haziness produced by what Londoners frequently breathe. Sir Joseph Swan is seen standing at the back of the group—beside the second pillar.

And now, gentlemen, I must, in saying "good-bye," express my sincere wishes for your welfare. May the seed so well sown in the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy have fallen on good ground, and may it yield fruit a thousand-fold; may you prosper—have health and length of days :

Days that need borrow  
No part of their good-morrow  
From a forespent night of sorrow.  
Days that in spite  
Of darkness, by the light  
Of a clear mind are day all night.  
Life that dares send  
A challenge to his end,  
And when it comes say, "Welcome, friend."

#### THE RESPONSE.

Mr. Watson-Will's ovation on rising to reply was loud, long, and hearty. When at length he got a hearing, Mr. Watson-Will said he hoped the words uttered by Sir Joseph Swan would sink deeply into the hearts of all true students. He thought the Metropolitan as a training-college of pharmacy had justified its existence. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) The College is entering upon its twelfth session; during the past eleven sessions 1,100 students trained at the Metropolitan had passed their examinations. Last year about 1,070 candidates entered for the qualifying examinations; of that total the Metropolitan College sent 130. The total pass was 404, and 100 of that total were Metropolitan College students. (Great applause.) He did not take the credit to his own individuality : the success was principally

#### Silver Medals.

Sidney Francis Body, Trevor Leonard Harding, and Percy Grayburn Richardson.

#### Bronze Medals.

Practical Chemistry.—Thomas McNeal Tomlinson, Francis William Woolf, and Herbert Franklin Baird.

Chemistry.—Baldwin Henry Jenkin, William Reading Button, and Herbert Franklin Baird.

Pharmacy.—Leonard John Griffith (2) and Harold Chard.

Botany.—John Howard Sharland, Leonard John Griffith, and Arthur Howie.

Materia Medica.—Charles William Kemsey-Bourne, Lennox Tice, and Herbert Franklin Baird.

Dispensing.—Joseph Edward Salter, Francis William Woolf, and Herbert Franklin Baird.

"The Demonstrators" was in the capable hands of Mr. F. J. Boss, a past student of the College, whose flowing periods are an annual delight at these dinners. On this occasion Mr. Boss said that in the presence of that harbinger of light, Sir Joseph Wilson Swan, he felt "rather as an ignorant beggar-man taken suddenly from the outer darkness and placed in the resplendent jewelled halls of an Emperor of Science." It would be like painting the lily or gilding burnished gold to give a Demosthenic eulogium on the virtues of the demonstrators. They, with their Principal, Mr. Watson-Will, had the genius of diffusing their personalities through the ranks of the students, and that was why the Metropolitan College took such a high position among schools of pharmacy. He reminded the company that they would be paying tribute to high moral character

and profound learning in toasting the demonstrators—"and individually to that old-world charm and courtly grace of Mr. Filmer de Morgan, to the infectious boyish enthusiasm and radio-activity of the perennially youthful Mr. Harry Lucas, and to the sterling common sense and geniality of Mr. David Williams." He likewise begged a kindly thought for the indefatigable Secretary, Mr. Walter Carver.

When the thunders of applause had subsided, Messrs. Lucas, de Morgan, and Williams replied. Mr. Lucas in his remarks referred to the success of the College teams in cricket and football. The Inter-Pharmacy Football League Cup (which was on a pedestal in front of the Chairman) was last year won by the College team.

Surgeon-General Don in a genial speech proposed "The Students," urging them all to grasp the opportunity at the moment, and to let their motto ever be "Excelsior." He dilated on the remorse in after-life regarding the neglect of missed opportunities, reminding them that—

The present moment is oor ain,  
The neist we never saw.

Mr. A. W. Summerfield replied, after which Mr. W. Lamond Howie in an amusing speech, in the course of which he told two funny Scotch stories, proposed "The Visitors." The reply, by Colonel J. S. Young, was inspiring, and was received with much enthusiasm. He said Sir Joseph Swan had enjoined all but the students to turn a deaf ear to his address, but he (the speaker) made bold to think that there was not one of the visitors but had profited by the precepts laid down by Sir Joseph in his address. Colonel Young then, after referring to the boluses of his youth and the "delicate insinuations" in medicine of the present age, went on to adjure the students to apply the

cardinal principle of time, study, and research to the duties of their lives, in order that a successful and useful career might be pursued.

Mr. Thomas Tyrer was called upon to propose the final toast—that of "The Chairman." In his speech, which was largely reminiscent, Mr. Tyrer outlined Sir Joseph Swan's interesting career. The filament used in electric lamps at the present day is the one invented by Sir Joseph in 1860. It has never been improved—a fact which is a striking testimony to the thoroughness with which the idea was worked out, and the faculty of observation cultivated. The fascinations of carbon also found an outcome in the invention of the carbon process of photographic printing, and from this the beautiful photogravure process associated with the name of Swan. Mr. Tyrer regretted that the recent honour conferred on Sir Joseph had come so late, but it was due to the King's advisers, who were so tardy to recognise the services of some of our foremost citizens. Scientific societies have, however, recognised Sir Joseph Swan's discoveries, the Royal Photographic Society and the Society of Chemical Industry having conferred upon him their most cherished medals.

The Chairman briefly replied, saying that he wished he could always see himself in the very flattering light in which his friends see him.

An excellent musical programme, under the direction of Mr. W. L. Cockburn, was gone through, the burlesque sketches of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Berry being specially appreciated. Mr. Cockburn and Mr. S. Masters sang solos and duets with much excellence and *verve*, and Miss Ada Tunks contributed several songs and acted as accompanist. "Auld Lang Syne" brought a very pleasant evening to a close.



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This photograph was taken during the course of a very enjoyable excursion a short while back to Ware, Hertford, Berkhamstead, and Broxbourne. Tea was taken at the Manor House, Little Berkhamstead, the residence of Mr. Cornelius Hanbury. The following are the names of those who appear in the group photograph:

*Top Row* (from left).—1, Clenyg Jones; 2, A. E. Marsh; 3, A. A. Trussell; 4, Leonard Salter; 5, A. E. Sidery; 6, W.

Rickford; 7, W. J. Petty; 8, C. F. Petty; 9, Arthur Bradbury.

*Second Row* (from left).—1, Henry Jenkins; 2, F. J. Hanbury; 3, Cornelius Hanbury; 4, W. Ralph Dodd; 5, F. C. Moss Millar.

*Bottom Row* (from left).—1, Theo Swinburne; 2, G. E. Butler; 3, Harold Lynn; 4, O. Harding.

The absentees were: A. H. Solomon, Brindley Grice, and W. Hustler.

## Man's Relation to the Flora of Scotland.

THIS was the subject of the inaugural address delivered to the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, by Professor Traill, on Friday evening, November 25, Mr. D. B. Dott, F.R.S.E., presiding. The lecturer is noted for his investigations into the



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His father and father-in-law were moderators of the Church of Scotland. He is a distinguished graduate of Aberdeen University, and as a naturalist explored Brazil before his appointment to the Aberdeen chair in 1877 when he was twenty-six. The portrait is by the Elite Photographic Studio.

relations between fauna and flora, and is well aware of the limited material at his disposal in treating the subject of his address. This he mentioned at the outset. He said a long and intimate acquaintance with the present condition of the plants of Scotland in their various habitats would enable one to recognise that they show very different relations to mankind. Numerous plants clearly owe their existence in Scotland to their value as yielding foods or timbers or other products of direct use, others to their beauty of form or of flowers, others to the protection they afford. From the situations in which alone they are met with they have evidently been planted or sown, and most of them would perish if man's protection were withdrawn. He instanced various plants which have been introduced by man, even in places where the casual observer might consider them to be native; and it is not only in respect to such colonists that man has intimate relations with the flora of Scotland, but also by deforesting, cultivation, and drainage he has greatly limited the areas and abundance of many native plants. Although the properties of these were known in early times little was recorded respecting them. Professor Traill mentioned "Oitus Sanitatis," a curious old folio of 1517, as one of the quaintest books, but the first study of plants in Scotland was by Caspar Bauhin, a botanist of the seventeenth century, who mentioned specimens he had received from Robert Morison, the Aberdeen student who had to leave Scotland when the Royalists were defeated, and was in 1670 appointed at Oxford University the first professor of botany in Great Britain. Morison was a great botanist, and his work is mentioned in Sir Robert Sibbald's "Scotia Illustrata" (1684), a comprehensive natural history of the country and its people. Sibbald was a physician as well as a geographer, and dealt well with the *materia medica* and plants of Scotland. Professor Traill explained that some of this writer's statements have to be accepted with reserva-

tion, but they are interesting as showing what plants were used medicinally in the seventeenth century. The following were quoted:

*Absinthium ponticum* (now *Artemisia Absinthium*, L.). Used in decoction for stomach and bowels, inflammations, dropsy, gout, etc. Grew wild on both sides of the Forth.

*Actaea pratensis* (now *Rumex Actosa*, L.) and

*A. arvensis lanceolata* (now *R. acetosella*, L.). Digestive, aperient, and useful in fevers.

Common goose grass (*Gallium Aparine*, L.). Decoction in white wine used for stone; applied also to scrophulous sores.

*Arundo vulgaris*, the common reed. Purgative, diuretic, and emmenagogue. Bruised plant applied for fistulas. Root ground and used for bread.

Bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*). An excellent vulnerary, as also was the wild daisy said to be.

*Digitalis purpurea*. Acted violently in epilepsy. Ointment of flowers and leaves for healing sores and curing rickets.

Eyebright (*Euphrasia*). For inflammations of the eyes, and decoctions in head-ailments.

Common strawberries were said to have varied properties, including relief from renal calculi. Leaves diuretic, and entire plant for jaundice.

Dog's grass (*Agropyrum repens*, Baur.). Cleared out stoppages of bowels and kidneys.

St. James's wort (*Senecio Jacobaea*) in decoction was used for jaundice and quinsies. Ointment for inflamed wounds and sciatica.

Sibbald mentioned also that the following plants had been brought to Scotland by man:

*Cannabis sativa*, *Fumaria officinaria* et *Dioscorides* (common fumitory), *Avena alba* and *A. nigra*, and *Rapistrum flore-luteo* (chattock or wild mustard). The native flora at that time included the following plants also used medicinally: Jack-by-the-hedge (*Sisymbrium Alliaria*, Scop.), common hedge mustard (*Sinapis*), common shepherd's purse, goutwort, common nettle, cuckoo pint, common toadflax, pellitory of the wall, and *Anagallis flave-phœnices* (*Anagallis arvensis*, L.). These examples show how different was the standpoint in 1684 from ours in respect of the value of many common plants, and explain the presence in the flora of Scotland of plants introduced by man for useful properties, real or imaginary, but the introduction of which took place before any record was, or indeed could be, made. Sibbald also gave a brief description of the physic-garden formed in Edinburgh not long before 1684, in which enterprise he took a prominent part, and in which there were in 1684 about 2,000 plants.

Professor Traill also referred to the Rev. John Lightfoot's "Flora Scotica" (1778) and to the principal works of last century which dealt with the distribution of plants in Scotland. In concluding he dealt with aliens and colonists, showing how they have come in some places, but expressing the opinion that the material for making a complete analysis in this domain does not exist. Man has destroyed as well as enriched the flora, and while regretting the disappearance of interesting and beautiful wild plants from localities where they once abounded, it should be remembered that much of the beauty and diversity of the existing lowland flora is due to the aliens introduced, amounting to several hundred species in Scotland.

## New Books.

Archer, F. M. *Dog in Health and Disease*. 7<sup>3</sup> x 4<sup>7</sup>. Pp. 126. 1s. (Pearson.)

Bolton, H. C. *Select Bibliography of Chemistry*, 1492-1902. Second Supplement. Royal 8vo. Pp. 462. 7s. 6d. net. (W. Wesley.)

Dobbin, Leonard, and Marshall, Hugh. *Salts and their Reactions: A Class-book of Practical Chemistry*. With preface by Professor Crum Brown. Demy 8vo. Pp. 200. 3s. 6d. (James Thin, Edinburgh.) [This book has grown out of a series of notes on the reactions of salts which Dr. Dobbin and Professor Crum Brown drew up a good many years ago for the class of Practical Chemistry. It describes the experimental work to be carried out, and gives also the more important reactions of the commoner radicals. The book does not profess to be an introduction to the physical chemistry of solutions, but the authors have prefixed a short account of the modern theories bearing on the reactions of salts, with which our readers were made familiar by Dr. Dobbin during the past summer.]

Halliburton, W. D. *Biochemistry of Muscle and Nerve*. 8<sup>3</sup> x 5<sup>6</sup>. Pp. 176. 7s. 6d. net. (J. Murray.)